

PANTONE AT BOOTS

Continued from front page

with matching between components and labels ensured, says Pantone (115 Sandgate Road, Folkestone, Kent CT20 2BL; tel: 0303 259959, fax: 259830).

Since each colour is identified by a unique reference number, there is no need to re-check colour accuracy at later stages. Chips come in a range of thicknesses (1, 2 and 3mm), with

gloss and matt finishes, and the client can, if necessary, obtain larger chips of a given colour before making a final decision.

Boots Contract Manufacturing was first introduced to the system by its principal colourant supplier Silvergate Plastics.

For more metrics, cosmetics and pharmaceuticals news, see pages 32 to 40.

For further information, call 0839 772288 or 0839 772288.

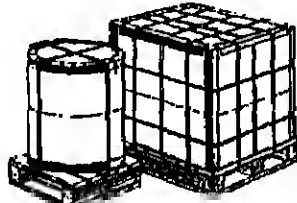
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Quality label designs for English sparkling wines

Labels for England's first range of home grown sparkling wines are being printed by Walsall Litho, with designs and quality reflecting the wines' premium positioning.

Denbies Wine Estate in Dorking chose Walsall from, back and neck labels - with the principal labels printed in five colours with gold blocking - for its 75cl bottles of Surrey Brut, Classic Brut and Pinot Rose. All three wines are of similar qualities to Champagne, says Denbies.

ed in two colours with gold foil blocking.

"Our wines are very high quality," says Denbies production director Hans Schleifer.

"And we make no compromises in any aspect of their production. Top quality packaging is essential."

Although Denbies, which

is the UK's largest vineyard, began by sourcing its wine labels from different suppliers, labels for all its wines are now produced by Walsall (PO Box 26, Midland Road, Walsall WS1 3QL - tel: 01922 721272, fax: 720845). According to Denbies, the label converter provides an excellent service both in terms of print quality and delivery times.

"The style of the labels identifies them as sparkling wines"



Gold blocked labels by Walsall Litho for English sparkling wines

"The labels are printed on white gloss paper with a subtle drawing"

Designed by Windsor Jennings, the labels are printed on white gloss paper with a subtle background graphic. The front labels include a line drawing of the vineyard screened in a different colour for each variety. Neck and back labels are printed

LASER CODING

Continued from front page

months in the UK and almost a year and a half in the US.

Messages for a typical shift can be installed easily and securely using the company's Data Wand barcode scanner, which is also used on its inkjet printers.

Through targeted field trials, Domino has already secured an order backlog for the technology worth around \$500,000. While concentrating on the single head model with

its twinline capability, Domino is also working on twin head versions equipped to code, for example, on different sides of the same carton.

A five dot matrix is also possible, but while this will reduce costs, it will not increase coding speeds. A stainless steel cabinet version of the coder is also available.

Domino advises customers installing laser coding to use parallel extraction systems, with filters suited to the particular substrate being coded. The company will eventually intro-

duce its own systems, but is currently using other suppliers.

Speed of coding clearly depends on the substrate, and use of the DDC laser would involve a long dwell time in particular on glass. Anticipating the needs of this market, Domino has also invested in research, carried out with United Distillers, into a scribing laser system, which the company describes as "perfect for glass".

Field trials will begin in 1995 and the system will be available the following year, Domino predicts. This tech-

nology will give high resolution print on medium or low speed lines, and will be ideal for promotional projects on premium products.

"Domino has held the view for a long time that it doesn't want all its eggs in one basket," explains Mr Whitesmith, giving the example of the PackTrack minicographic system for outer case coding.

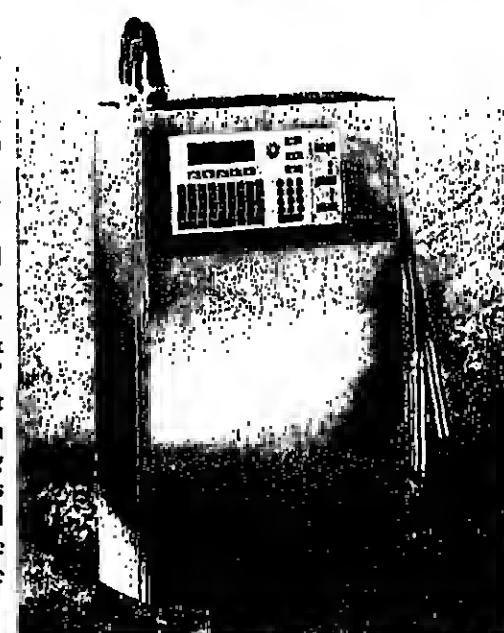
For more Salon de l'Emballage news, see page 23. Interphex news starts on page 36.

For further information, call 0839 772288 or 0839 772288.

Dual head imager adds code range

High quality resolution a speed is said to be provided by the Excel Series 273se inkjet printer, launched at Pack Expo in Chicago last month by Videojet Systems International.

"The 273se is ideal for any manufacturer that needs to print information on two different parts of the product," David Hawkes, product manager of Videojet in the US, told *Packaging News*. "Added benefits offered with this dual head flexibility are reduced maintenance



The Excel Series 273se

costs and high levels of reliability," he said.

The provision of six lines of text enables users to deliver more information, code in two locations simultaneously, or deliver two different codes at high speed, says the company (UK: 153 Dixons Hill Road, Welham Green, Herts AL9 7JE - tel: 0707 275844, fax: 275893). The unit can accommodate two separate product detectors and encoders to allow for variations in line speed

Cont. on back page

Advisory group to precede Valpak

An advisory group, paving the way for the setting up of the industry organisation Valpak, is being set up in the wake of the final report from the PRG (Producer Responsibility Group).

While the industry awaits legislation - announced in the Queen's Speech last month - which will include details of a levy to finance the recovery of packaging waste, the Valpak Working Representative Advisory Group (V-Wrag) is being formed to prepare a prospectus and produce funding for the Industry Organisation Valpak. With the publication of its report, the PRG has completed the task it was set.

V-Wrag will be in existence for between six and nine months, it is estimated, or until the legislation is on the statute

books. Only then will it be clear exactly what form Valpak should take.

Of critical importance is the greater industry representation envisaged with V-Wrag as compared with the PRG. Each of the five Materials Organisations (MOs) will be represented, with other members drawn

"15 member work group"

from the different stages of the packaging chain. Christopher Stewart-Smith, ex chairman of the PRG, has proposed that he should remain as chairman of the group, with David Harding as director. A 15 member working group is likely.

For many in the chain, it is

important that momentum towards the setting up of Valpak should not be lost, and subscriptions of between £10,000 and £15,000 are already being invited by V-Wrag. This will cover professional consultation fees and formation expenses, says Mr Stewart-Smith.

But retailers are reportedly unhappy about the proposed interim body. While the British Retail Consortium welcomes the report, director James May says: "Retailers are concerned that while momentum is not lost, steps should not be taken prematurely to set up an organisation, Valpak or any other, ahead of any legislation."

For more on V-Wrag and the PRG report see page 4.



Whisky carton for Christmas

Old St Andrews Ltd has introduced its Clubhouse scotch whisky in a carton exclusively designed for the UK market and launched to coincide with the Christmas sales period.

The 750 micron totalling boxboard carton is printed six colours plus varnish with a spot lacquer to enhance both the Old St Andrews scotch whisky logo and the photographic image of the Old St Andrews whisky bottle itself. The carton, which has a tuck in top end crashlock base has been produced by Ferry Pickering Sales Ltd (PO Box No 8, Coventry Road, Hincley, Leics LE10 0JJ - tel: 0455 230171, fax: 251338).

There is also a two colour plus varnish reverse print which features the famous lion with gold club Old St Andrews symbol.

Continued on back page

WHAT'S Inside

Salon de l'Emballage show report 6-7

Packs, materials and machinery featured at the Paris exhibition.

Marketing history 8

The advantages of design projects spanning all ranges are shown.

Pack Expo report 11-13

We highlight some of the products that drew a record attendance to the Chicago exhibition last month.

Wrap gives protection to steel coils 17

A Swedish company is supplying a corrosion inhibiting stretch film to a major steel producer.

Meet the Association 21

A look at the British Fibreboard Packaging Association.

Pakex plans 23

An early preview of next year's show from the organiser and some exhibitors.

FEATURES

Checkweighing and metal detection 24-27

End use studies provide specific insights into the latest technology for weight and product security checking.

REGULARS

Company News 15

It was Packaging News then 18

Diary 20

People 22

CLASSIFIED ADS start on page 47

APPOINTMENTS start on page 50

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So, what to make of the interim advisory group - the wonderfully named V-Wrag - which will pave the way for the setting up of the industry organisation Valpak? One thing that should be welcomed, and is probably of critical importance to the future workings of the group, is its much more representative composition.

Unlike the Producer Responsibility Group (PRG) - which was made up mainly of users of packaging - the producers will, we all hope, enjoy a much bigger say in V-Wrag and, eventually, Valpak. Each of the five Material Organisations (MOs) will be represented, with other members drawn from the different stages of the packaging chain, most probably from the various sectoral trade bodies.

Debate continues through the packaging chain, however, centring on whether an independent, separately financed body is necessary at all. According to James May, director general of the British Retail Consortium (BRC) a forum where government could sound out ideas and consult would be sufficient in the lead up to legislation with Inpen - which is likely to supply the secretariat for V-Wrag - able to fulfil this role alone. Certainly, Inpen is well respected throughout the packaging chain, and is close enough to government to act as a capable intermediary.

But V-Wrag insists on the need for an independent organisation in shaping a prospectus for Valpak, while stressing that it should be kept to a minimum in size and scope. Just how many companies will come up with the subscriptions formally pitched at £15,000 to cover V-Wrag's professional consultation fees and formation expenses is, however, still unclear. Whatever the wrangling over this aspect of the process, it would be criminal if it was allowed to derail consultations which, most importantly, bypass nobody. Unless, of course, you are a local authority and ultimately responsible for implementing at least part of the outcome...

Gail Len, Editor

Meeting multiple needs in transit and display

Multiformat capabilities for transit and display packing, both conventional and robotic, are the focus for end of line machinery introduced by French manufacturer Cernex.

Machines were demonstrated to customers at the company's 20th anniversary presentation at Corbelles les Citeaux, France, and shown at the Paris Salon de l'Emballage and Chicago's Pack Expo.

The E550 case erector will handle multiple formats including case and tray/sleeve combinations with or without flaps. According to Cernex, the system will answer the needs of those packing suppliers more than one retailer.

Packing solutions which offer different transit and display options are key to the company's strategy, says Bernard Broys. "More and more people are looking for alternatives to regular slotted cases in order to reduce costs and use just enough material for the function needed," Mr Broys tells PN.

The company also presents its Blotpack process, which shrinks film anchored inside a case or tray around product prior to transit. Here too, flexibility is key to the system, with the ability to handle different sizes and board grades but also styles such as lidded cases and hood/tray combinations.

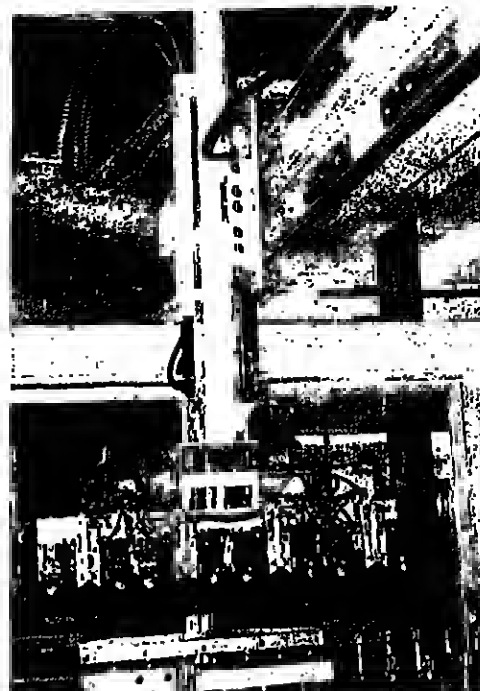
According to Dick South of Cernex UK, the system is ideal for products such as books, cassettes or CDs. "Any-

one sending out variable case fill and packing to specific customer orders can benefit from this system," he tells PN.

Overall efficiency and line speed is being worked on for the system, which in many applications can replace time consuming void filling of the transit case by hand.

The E478 pick and place packer was shown at the Paris exhibition gripping collations of bottles and loading them into cases. The company can offer gantry systems which integrate case erecting and packing, loading layer by layer or row by row. Increasingly, electronics and brushless motors are replacing mechanical systems, says Mr Broys, with the application of numerical control axes giving greatest flexibility.

The gantry option represents the ideal compromise for many companies between robot systems and conventional casepackers, says Cernex (PO Box 12, Huntingdon, Cambs PE18 6XE - tel: 0480 455919, fax: 451520). Not only



Gantry applications can be an ideal compromise

can more difficult products such as unstable bottles be handled than on other casepackers, but installation costs are contained and space savings made.

Cernex is currently exporting almost 50 per cent of its production, and is increasing the autonomy of its European-wide sales offices. Having exhibited three of its machines in Chicago, the company is also cautiously establishing a presence in North America.

Some 250 existing and potential customers attended the celebrations for Cernex's 20th anniversary.

For further information K12 Call for details 0839 772288

Inpen celebrates 20 not out

Inpen (The Industry Council for Packaging and the Environment), celebrated its 20th Anniversary last month with a lunch in London.

Guest speaker was Michael Heseltine, President of the Board of Trade who had spoken previously in 1980. In his introduction Sir Peter Parker, president of Inpen said: "We are not where we should be, or where we will be, but we are further on than when you last met us."

Mr Heseltine talked of the

competitiveness of the packaging industry being of central importance to the wider success of British industry. "I place on record today my appreciation of the considerable contribution which the industry is making to the strength and well-being of the UK industry as a whole," he told the assembled guests.

On the current situation regarding the Producer Responsibility Group (PRG), he said that now that it had completed its work, the time

had come for a body with a wider industrial representation. "The Environment and Countryside Bill should be enacted in the current Parliamentary session and secondary legislation will follow for packaging," he said. "In the meantime I am concerned that the momentum should not be lost, and I am grateful to Inpen for your efforts to keep things moving."

"I congratulate Inpen on a difficult job well done over two decades and I wish it another successful 20 years."

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Bulbs displayed in clear pp

Bull company Lingarden is supplying Asda with an Amarylus growing set in a transparent pp pack, litho printed, complementing the existing board carton but upgrading the contents to a premium product.

Converter Ryedale Printing Group produces the lock-in carton in 800 micron clear, glass lined flexible pp printed in four colours. To achieve what the company sees as the first result of its kind in Europe, Ryedale overcame a series of problems associated with litho printing onto pp.

"The problem is that it is hard to feed this material through the printer," explains marketing director Michael Waller, "because the sheets

don't want to separate. In addition to this, the real problem is the ink key."

The French manufacturers of the pp sheet will not guarantee its product litho printable, but Ryedale solved the problems involved, reverse printing inside the carton, sealing it before and afterwards.

Each carton contains a decorated ceramic growing pot, compost and the bulb. The use of graphics on a transparent pack enables the consumer to see both the contents and what the flower will look like. The combination has enabled Asda to reposition the product with a 75 per cent price differential



The 800 micron clear, flexible pp carton

compared with the E-flute carton still in use.

Clearly, says Ryedale, there is a distinct advantage for the retailer having printing inside the pack, with instructions and decoration complete-

Coated cartonboard system for icecream

Sainsbury has launched an ice cream using the cost effective coated cartonboard system - its first UK application - from the US Fold-Pak Corporation, which is also trialling a food grade chemical coating to replace the penox used.

Soft Scoop ice cream is being sold in the pack at Sainsbury Savacentre outlets. The Fold-Pak carton system, which can be used for bulk ice cream or frozen yogurt, was launched in the UK in a joint venture between Novabox Ltd - the international marketing arm of Fold-Pak - Decidie Paper Box Co. and APV Ctepaco.

APV supplies the ice cream filling and hot melt equipment, while Decidie - part of the Mayr Melhof group - has the UK and Ireland exclusive licence for production of the

carton and has developed market contacts in the UK.

Crucial features of the system include the tamper evident locking of the carton, the reclosable top cover, all round quality printing, and better space utilisation says Amit Ben-Haim, md of Novabox. The carton design and use of hot melt ensures that the pack does not leak, says the company.

"30 per cent cheaper"

Figures from Novabox show that for up to five colour separation on 1000 units, a Fold-Pak 2 litre carton would be between 15 and 30 per cent cheaper - taking all costs into account - than an equivalent plastics tub. If a tamper evident

Bottle placer guards against empty pucks

A system for marshalling pucks and placing bottles in them prior to filling has been developed by Posimat, with a system to ensure that empty pucks do not enter the filling line.

In an adaptation of its Posi-master system, the manufacturer has produced a system which feeds bottles down into pucks at a higher speed than manual loading would allow.

Essential support

Pucks provide essential support for unstable containers. As Posimat emphasises, by using a puck system, fillers do

not need to alter conveyor guides between bottle sizes and shapes, only the height of the filling head. Bottle decoration is also protected from damage.

The Posipuck can run at 180 bottles a minute.

The system can work in line with a Giramat unit for correct orientation of containers, says Posimat (Kingswood House, 12 Shute, Wokingham, Berks RG11 1BJ - tel: 0734 732686, fax: 730565).

Unfilled pucks travel around the carousel again.

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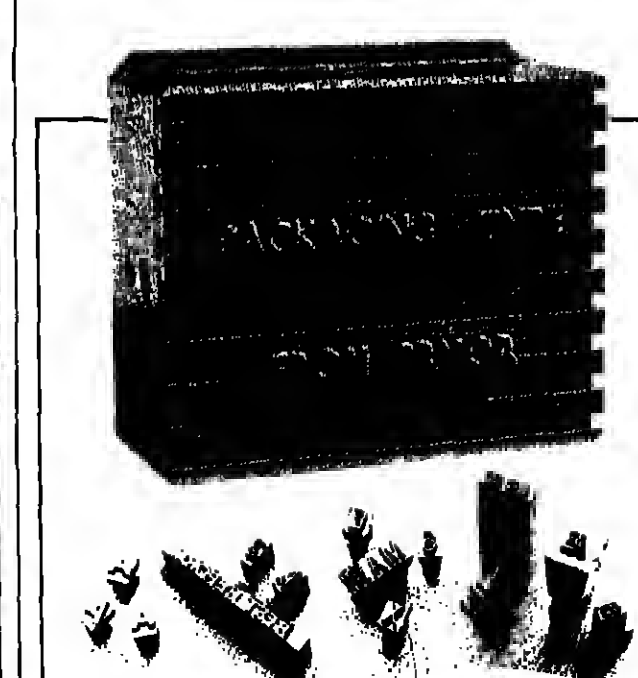
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Inline inkjet coding guarantees security for Christmas treats

Christmas presentation cartons are being inkjet coded with variable information in line by Penguin Confectionery & Co, ensuring product security and conformity with line speed.

Off line hot foil coding of flat cartons was abandoned since it could not keep up with line speeds and could not offer coding immediately after the packing process. Customers, which for this gift pack include the major multiples, are insisting that lot number and "best before" are coded in line.

After looking at different inkjet options, Penguin selected Linx Printing Technology's

6000 series printer. The Midi print head codes upwards onto the base of twelve different packs, varying in size between 15cm x 15cm and 25 square cm in oblong, round, oval and square variants.

High quality print

"We decided on the Linx machine after having seen several in operation in other plants and have been very pleased with its performance. It can easily cope with the volumes required, it is reliable, produces high quality print and allows us to meet the very high standards set by our cus-

tomers," says Penguin's production director George Southern.

Five lines of print can be produced on the 6000 in speeds up to 6.8m a sec. Character sizes range from less than 1mm to 25mm in near letter quality, says Linx (Blurrel Road, St Ives, Huntingdon, Cambs PE17 4LL - tel: 0480 360755, fax: 495093). The Penguin installation, like all Linx machines, has automatic start up and shut down.

Individual sweets are placed by hand in vacuum formed trays, which are then fitted into the various carton

types. Once on the infeed conveyor, the packs are coded from underneath the line. They then go on for overwrapping.

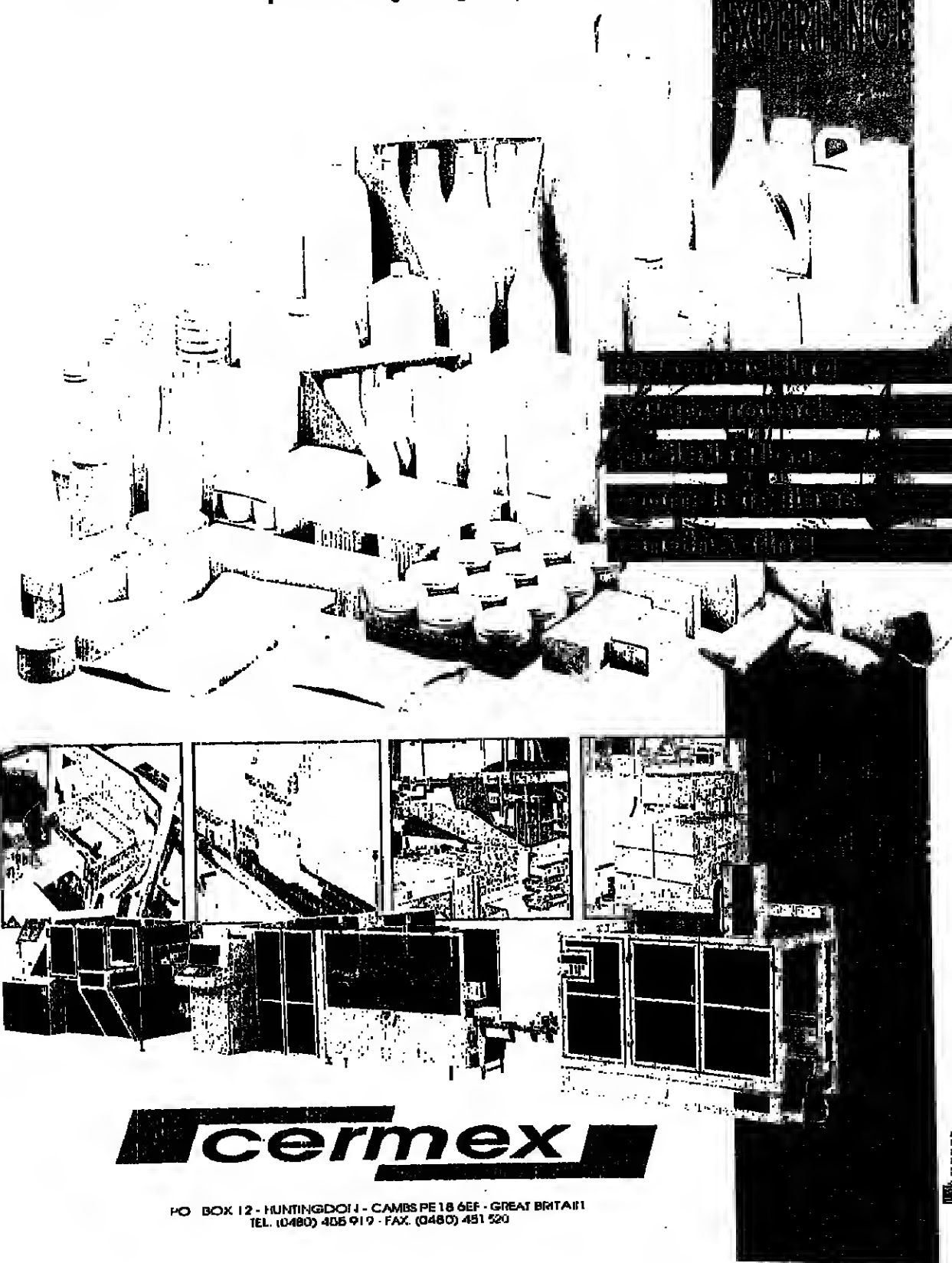
Most of Penguin's confectionery is packed in pe bags containing a card printed with lot number and "best before" dates, but seasonal products have always required separate printing onto cartons, says Mr Southern. Character size varies according to pack size.

For further information, call 0480 360755 or 495093.

A Penguin confectionery pack approaches the Linx Midi Print Head



End of line packaging machinery



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Retailers balk at new advisory costs

The final form of the interim advisory group V-Wrag (see page 1) remains uncertain, with debate through the packaging chain centring on whether an independent, separately financed body is necessary at all at this stage.

"Not many retailers are likely to put £15,000 into a pot for something that may not in the end be necessary," James May, director general of the BRC, tells PN.

Given the present situation for the different materials streams, the BRC sees four out of the five as potentially being able to meet government and EU targets without the involvement of any other organisation, with plastics as the weak link in the chain.

A forum where government could sound out its ideas and consult would be sufficient in the lead-up to legislation, says Mr May, with Incpen - which is likely to supply the secretariat for V-Wrag - able to fulfil this role alone.

But V-Wrag insists on the need for an independent organisation in shaping a prospectus for Valpak, while stressing that it should be kept to a minimum in size and scope. The healthier state of some materials streams now may be only temporary, adds Christopher Stewart-Smith, V-Wrag chairman. "Fluctuations happen, and what may be a low requirement one minute may be much higher the next," he says.

Cross subsidies

One point where the final PRG report differs from the earlier version is on the subject of cross-subsidies between the material streams. No longer ruling these out, the November report talks about them being "held to a minimum". "We start off on the principal that there will be no material cross-subsidies," Mr Stewart-Smith explains to PN. "We will have to have very good reasons for

diverging from this."

While the report endorses Sir Sydney Lipworth's proposals for a modified converter levy (see PN August '94) in the long term, it rejects the idea of the complex interim "shared burden" levy.

The report focuses much more on energy from waste (efw) than the preliminary version, estimating that UK capacity will - allowing for plants which will have to close or upgrade by 1997 - be around 4 million tonnes. Key aims, says the report, are the gaining of public acceptance for efw and ensuring that costs are at least as attractive as those for landfill.

One feature of Valpak's final form which is not yet clear is the role of local authorities. It seems likely though, that while cooperation will be encouraged, there will be no direct representation for them in the organisation. Some more ambitious projects have been dropped in this version, and the report generally puts much more emphasis on the industrial/commercial waste stream than the domestic one.

Participative process

Welcoming the report - which works towards a target of 58 per cent recovery of packaging by the year 2000 - and the proposed underpinning legislation, the British Plastics Federation stresses the importance of Valpak. "The participative process is an opportunity which must not be missed," says director general Ron Jones.

The EU directive on packaging is still expected to clear both the parliament and approval by environment ministers before Christmas (see PN Nov '94).

V-Wrag is at 4th Floor West, 114 Knightsbridge, London SW1X 7LJ - tel: 0171 8238666, fax: 8238363.

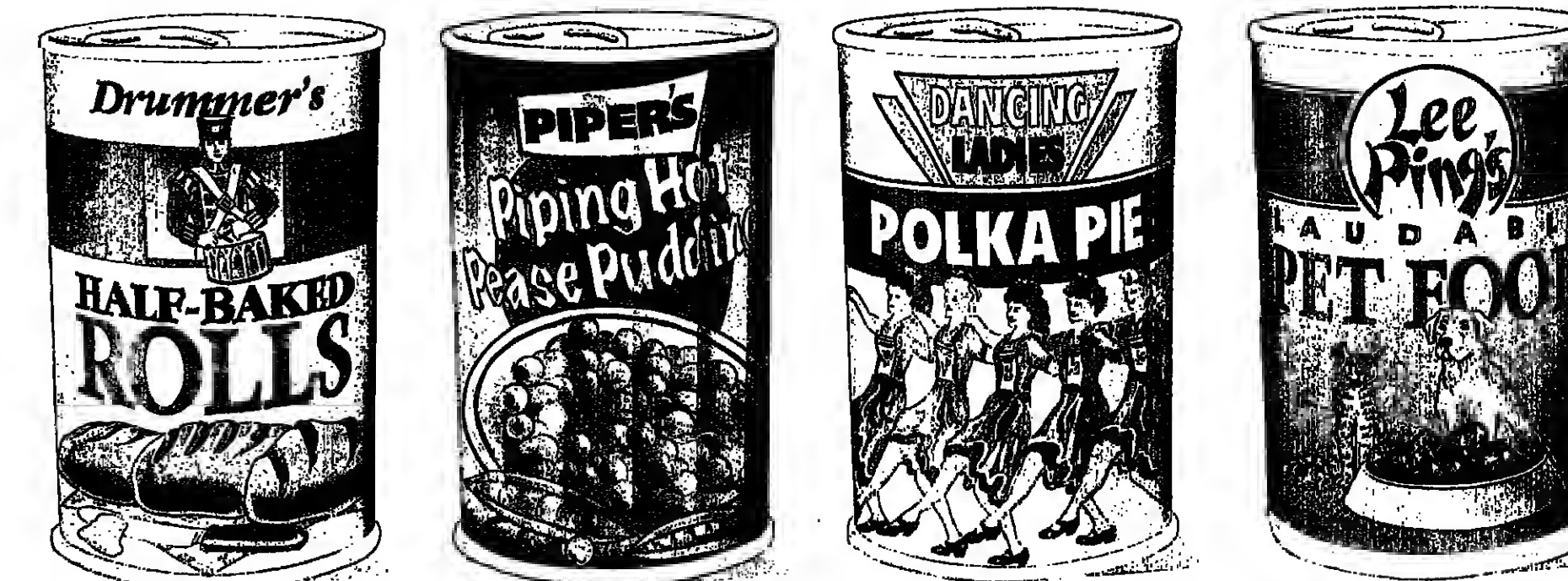
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EMBALLAGE REPORT

Young design winners

Paving the way to a different type of pack for shirts is pari Emballage winner, which uses just two materials, built into the pack, rather than the more usual three or four.

Board and cellulose are used in the pack which itself wraps in to support the folds in the shirt and locks around the collar. More details of this and the other winners can be obtained in the UK from Promosolons (The Colonnades, 82 Bishops Bridge Road, London W2 6BB - tel: 0171 2213660, fax: 7923525).

For further information K12 Call for details 109 0839 772288

Lower cost production of cartons

An economical system for producing cartons with inserts and an integrated case packing and palletising unit were among the solutions shown for the first time by lma.

The manufacturer took a Packaging Oscar in the systems category for its line which produces and fills the Flip&Lock carton. This starts with a flat board blank and uses a patented device to cut a section from the board and attach it as an insert to the carton before it is erected and filled.

With the use of flat blanks rather than pre-glued cartons, storage and transport needs are reduced, says lma. Alternatively, where users would otherwise require a 'fifth fold' on the exhibits on the Cebal stand.

Satinel tubes use Cebalex, a co-extruded material which includes a fine layer of evoh barrier, to achieve a smooth, silky or rough finish without any need for varnishing. Degrees of transparency can also be achieved with the material, which is impermeable to oxygen.

Other products from

Single operating head

The robotic division's Total Line end of line machine uses a single operating head to pick a side-glued folding case from the magazine, erect, glue and fill it with product, glue the top flaps and place on the pallet load, all in a single compact unit. The throughput is up to eight cases a minute, says lma (Oaklands Park, Fishponds Road, Wokingham, Berks RG11 2FD - tel: 0734 772323, fax: 773453).

The pharmaceutical division showed the A94 continuous motion carter and C70 blister packing and cartoning line, both first shown at Achema.

For further information K12 Call for details 116 0839 772288

Tubes in many textures

Ranges of tubes in the same plastics material but offering different surface textures for product variants were among the exhibits on the Cebal stand.

Cebal, part of the Pechiney group, (77-78 Earlswood Rd, Earlswood Industrial Estate, Corby, Northants NN17 2AZ - tel: 0536 400500, fax: 400333) included Cebalex, a closure openable with a single hand and fine layer of evoh barrier, to achieve a smooth, silky or rough finish without any need for varnishing. Degrees of transparency can also be achieved with the material, which is impermeable to oxygen.

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EMBALLAGE REPORT

Palletiser saves space and time

The Pal-Pack 5100 is designed to save space

End of line equipment shown for the first time by Newtec International and its French company Thimon included a high speed palletiser, a multi-line palletising robot and its pallet wrapping technology.

Running at up to 500 layers an hour, the Pal-Pack 5100 is also designed for space saving, with a hinged slatted front deposit platform and row transfer unit.

The Pal-Vite 500 runs at between seven and ten cycles a

junction with Thimon's Oscar-winning Siralex off line power prestretch process. Prestretch can be of the order of 300 per cent, with film savings of up to 25 per cent, says Newtec (Unit 4, Great West Trading Estate, Great West Road, Brentford, Middx TW8 9DN - tel: 0181 7589000, fax: 8473613).

Hoods for pallet loads were shown being shrunk right using Thimon's Flowex process.

For further information K12 Call for details 112 0839 772288

Gold print on glass saves energy

German glass and plastics manufacturer Heinz showed examples of its gold printing onto glass without the use of flux and round the corner printing onto both glass and plasos.

Since it uses less energy, gold printing without flux has economic advantages, says Heinz, which supplies its products into the UK through Robinson Associates (18 Market Street, Poole, Dorset BH15 1NF - tel: 0202 683388, fax: 682677).

The plastics business now has a cleanroom production facility for pharmaceutical packaging.

For further information K12 Call for details 119 0839 772288

BRIEFS

A DOYPACK stand up pouch filling machine which, with two heads, doubles the throughput of its existing model was shown by Thimonier, represented in the UK by Notem (0532 779504). The TD 1000 Doypack at 80 packs a minute on volumes up to 1 litre.

A BAGGING unit from Chronos Richardson (01158 351391), in an encapsulated unit for dust reduced operation, was shown filling a range of bags with powdered and granular product.

Dutch company lma Cartonnages, now part of John Waddington (0532 780730). Closing the carton closes the inner bag at the same time, says lma.

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Legs focused strategy lifts hosiery sales



Special colours give additional brilliance to the opaque range

A product focused rather than personality/lifestyle focused strategy was chosen by Wickens Tutt Southgate (WTS) in its pack designs for the 65-line Bhs hosiery offer, prompting a lift in sales which the retailer describes as "brilliant".

Rather than positioning the tights and stockings as a lifestyle product, WTS combined the Bhs brief requiring an overall impression of warmth from the packs with photography which emphasised the characteristics of

each line. Hanging cartons and sleeves, with widths varying according to quality, are used throughout.

Research with focus groups showed that consumers considered, given the nature of the product, anything other than legs to be irrelevant to the pack illustration. Another key area for Bhs and WTS was easier shopping, facilitated by better differentiation between ranges and types.

Working over a six month period, WTS completed designs

for the entire offer, which encompasses several different ranges. By tackling this as a single project with itself as the only agency involved, WTS was able to ensure that there was sufficient differentiation, but also consistency where required.

The temptation can be to neglect differences between ranges, says designer David Beard, presenting a standard product in a similar way to a luxury line, especially if design is carried out piecemeal. Of course, this does not help the shopper make an informed choice. But with the WTS redesign, says Bhs, that essential differentiation is there.

Colour coding is used throughout to identify tights, stockings or hold ups and the different denier values. Beyond this colour coding and the emphasis on "easy leg enhancement", each range works in a

By redesigning all Bhs' hosiery packs in a single project, consultant Wickens Tutt Southgate has made the shopper's task easier, says the retailer, and opened the way for increased sales. Paul Gander reports.

different way, some using colour, some black and white photography, some wide cartons and some just sleeves.

Ranges span socks, everyday and lycra multipacks, opaques, luxury, specials, handbag packs and leggings. All packs are printed on Hygescand Carton-Cut board by the John Hampden Press in Letchworth.

Six or seven colour litho printing is used, with either gloss emulsion coating or, for the premium ranges, a uv varnish. "To get the brilliance required we had to use special colours in some cases, particularly on the opaque range," says John Hampden sales manager Clive Brewin.

On the luxury range best results were obtained using two metallics and two blacks, and colours were also manipulated at the repro end on the specials range to give greater depth to colours including sepia.

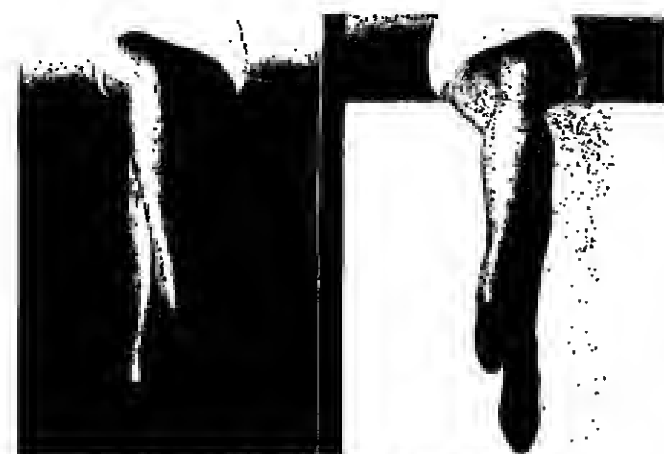
Since March '93, Bhs has been working on redesigning its packs, concentrating on graphics

rather than structural design. This has progressed hand in hand with a redesign of store interiors, carried out by other consultants.

The consultancy has been involved with other pack redesigns for Bhs including its homeware, lighting, bedding

agency has won Design Effectiveness Awards for the gains in market share stimulated by its work. Products launched or relaunched in WTS designs include Britvic's Tango and Quaker Feast of Flakes.

Wickens Tutt Southgate is at



Different depths of sepia are used on the special range

and children's clothes.

WTS likes to think of itself as a brand design agency rather than "just another design consultancy". The

10a Frederick Close, London W2 2HD - tel: 071-262 1707, fax: 071-262 1512.

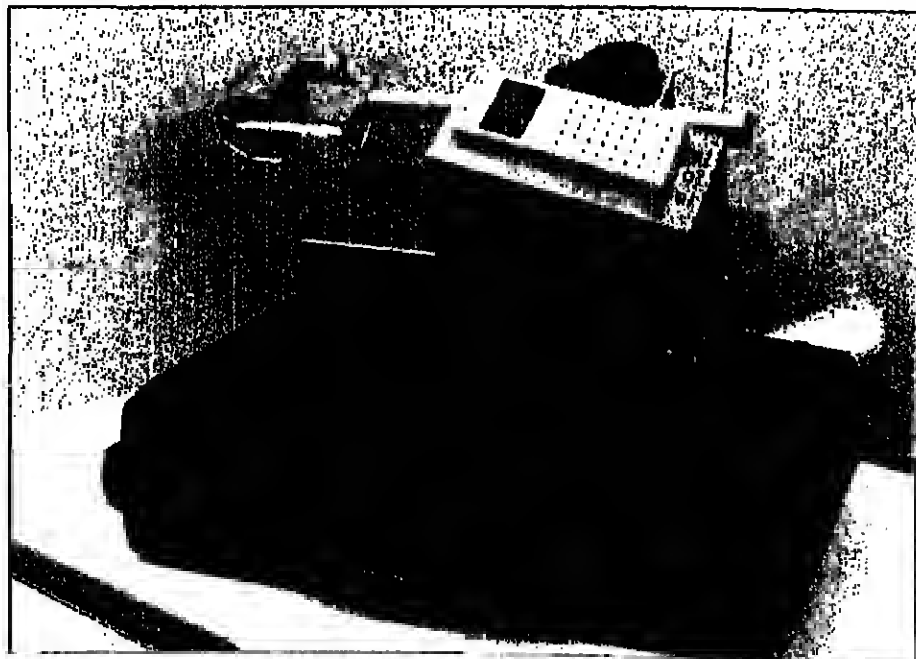
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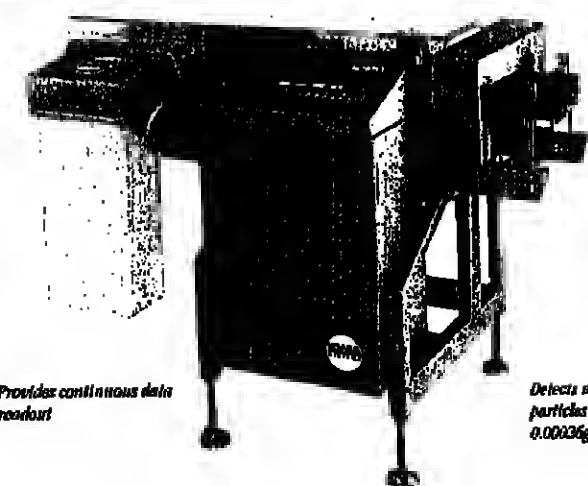
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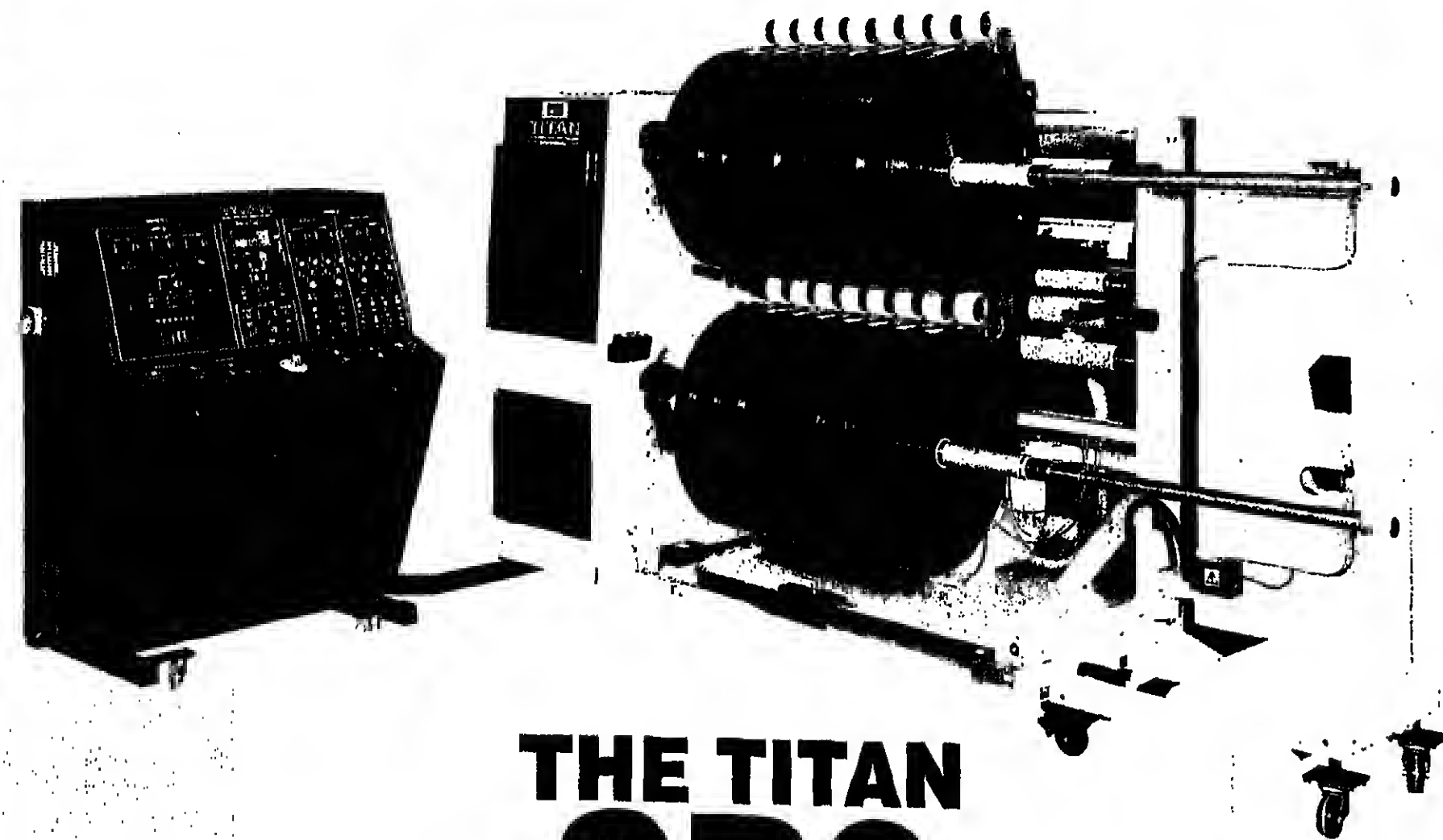
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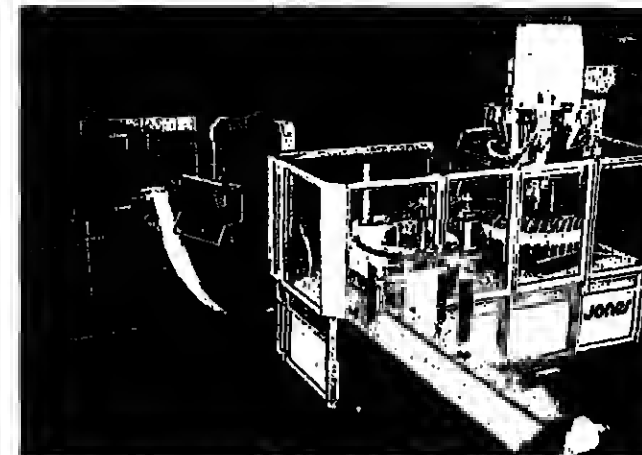
Call on 0839 772268 or enquiry number K12-426

PACK EXPO REPORT

Record attendance at Pack Expo show



Over 51,000 visitors were at Pack Expo in Chicago last month, a figure which represents a 14 per cent increase over the last show in 1992. Visitors were given the opportunity of visiting 1261 companies occupying 918,958 net sq ft of space. Here, Call Lea highlights just some of the products on show. A further report will follow next month.



The pouch maker is capable of running at up to 4000 in a minute

Faster pouchmaking

A pouch maker capable of running at up to 4000 in a minute and said by RA Jones to be easier to changeover and convert than any machine of its type, and at a cost 10 per cent below that of existing equipment, was demonstrated.

"The new technology incorporated in the unit allows for this decrease in price as it has simplified the machine itself, as well as the manufacturing process," Martin Barnevelt, sales manager in the UK, tells *Packaging News*.

The direct servo controls and electronics package incorporated on the PK4000 pouch machine allows the unit to monitor its own operation, resulting in less downtime and increased productivity.

Replacing drive chains with electro-mechanical servos, to directly control various components, represents a major innovation in pouch machine engineering, says the company (Yorkshire House, East Parade, Leeds LS1 5SH - tel: 0532 453082, fax: 436039). As well as smoother, quieter operation and greater reliability, this design concept has also allowed greater overall machine flexibility to be included.

"Previously, a food manufacturer would have had to have run six, slower machines to get this degree of product flexibility," says Mr Barnevelt.

One way that line efficiency has been improved is by the servo controlled, freestanding,

cantilevered knife which can be installed at an optimum location. Another feature is the servo compensating direct deposit system which enables pouches to go directly from knife into product buckets for canoning. This saves on the need for custom designed transfers.

On the filling side, the servo controlled auger fill system along with the servo controlled filler wheel, is said to result in more consistent pouches and to minimise product waste.

The high speed machine has been designed with 20 per cent fewer parts overall and more standard components being used. This is said to have contributed to a lower cost per pouch, per minute giving the customer greater value.

Product changeovers, into the same size pouch, can be achieved without tools in around 30 minutes, while the use of a separate conversion kit allows the PK4000 to be converted to run different pouch sizes in one eight hour shift or less. The PK4000 is a metric machine and has a footprint of 115 x 3000mm. It was just one of eight new developments seen on the RA Jones stand.

Also highlighted was an adjustable pouch machine (APM) which allows stand up pouches to be produced on high speed, continuous motion pouch units.

For further information K12 Call for details 133 0839 772268

Bag sealing and horizontal wrapping

A high speed bag sealer, a Super Mustang horizontal wrapper and an upgraded Microtronic horizontal wrapper were introduced by Doboy, part of the SIG Packaging Technology Group.

The S-CH-L continuous sealer is said to deliver dependable, high speed performance for fully automated, continuous operation bag lines, for tube or gusset type bags. It is especially suited for 25-50lb bags, says the company (UK: address: Doboy Ltd, Unit A1 Crammer Road, West Mead-

ows Ind. Est., Derby, Derbys DE2 6JL - tel: 0332 44889, fax: 0332 40480).

Timing belts ensure precise speeds and provide positive bag top control. The unit is available with special electronics to interface with equipment such as scales and fillers.

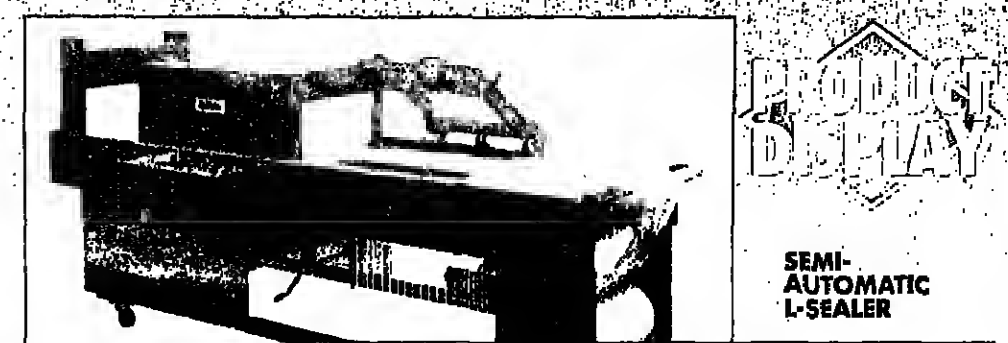
Designed to replace Doboy's existing Super Mustang machine, the new version of the horizontal wrapper launched at the show is said to be "the most accessible we have ever built." Engineered for versatile, custom designed

production at speeds up to 250 packs a minute, a variety of products can be wrapped on the machine with only minor modifications. Typical applications include vending, dairy and pharmaceutical products.

Singles, multiples or trays of items, including soft, fragile or hardware products can all be wrapped on the machine.

The upgraded Microtronic horizontal wrapper on show is designed for high speed production lines.

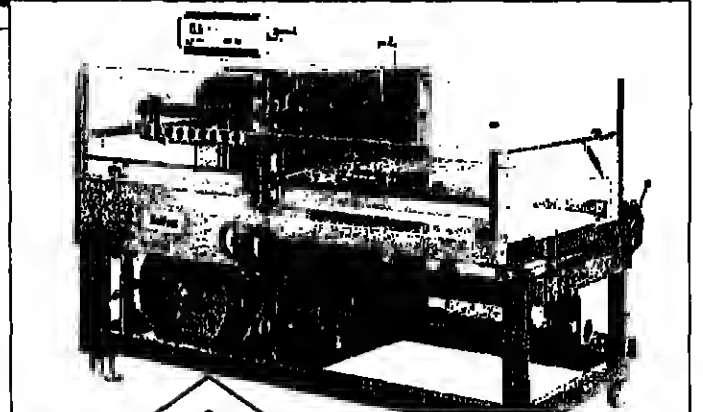
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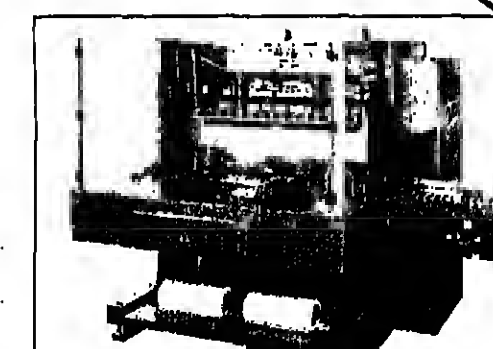
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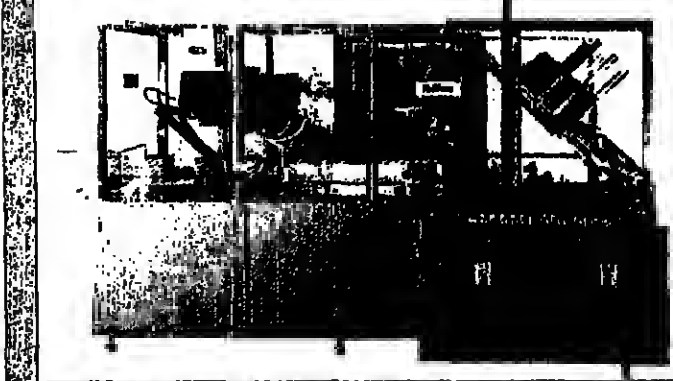


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Turnkey consortium

Five US manufacturers of packaging equipment for the beverage, food processing and other manufacturing industries have formed a consortium of companies dedicated to providing turnkey packaging systems to both domestic and international markets.

Called Packaging International, the group has already put together a complete glass bottling line for Coca-Cola in the Philippines and a further order for a canning line from Pepsi in Thailand has also been secured. "Our customers are

demanding more and more turnkey-type projects," says Bernard McPhooley, CEO of

Box 26529, Greenville, SC 29616, USA - tel: +803 297 1300, fax: +803 298 5195.

Other members include Ambee, Industrial Dynamics Co Ltd, D & L Manufacturing Co Inc and Pinnacle Automation International. The group will consider adding companies whose product lines can enhance the single source philosophy.

The consortium is said to offer customers the convenience of single

source responsibility, with coordinated engineering and design.

For further information... K12 Call for details 0839 772268



Consortium members (l to r) Robert Unke, Bernard McPhooley, Robert Risley, Nicholas Olsenhoff and Fred Csilhoun

Neck finishes inspected

Neck finishes on pet and hdp bottles as well as pol preforms can now be inspected using Visi-pack's Bottle-Scan 420 vision gauging system, demonstrated at the show by Packaging Technologies and Inspection (145 Main St, Tuckahoe, NY 10707, USA - tel: +814 337 2995, fax: +814 337 8618).

Choice of laser code power

A dot matrix laser coder, said to be the only machine currently available which offers a choice of laser power to suit particular line speeds and substrates across the industrial spectrum, was launched by Willett America, Inc. It is designed to allow a 25, 50 or 100w laser to be used.

Up to three lines of text can be created by the coder with variable characters changing automatically and instantly. It can be integrated into any printing position on a production line, with the laser head close to the products being coded and the control cabinet away from the conveyor. The coder has no moving



parts and uses no consumables, points out the company (1675 Lakes Parkway, Lawrenceville, Georgia 30243, tel: +404 995 1681, fax: +404 995 9021).

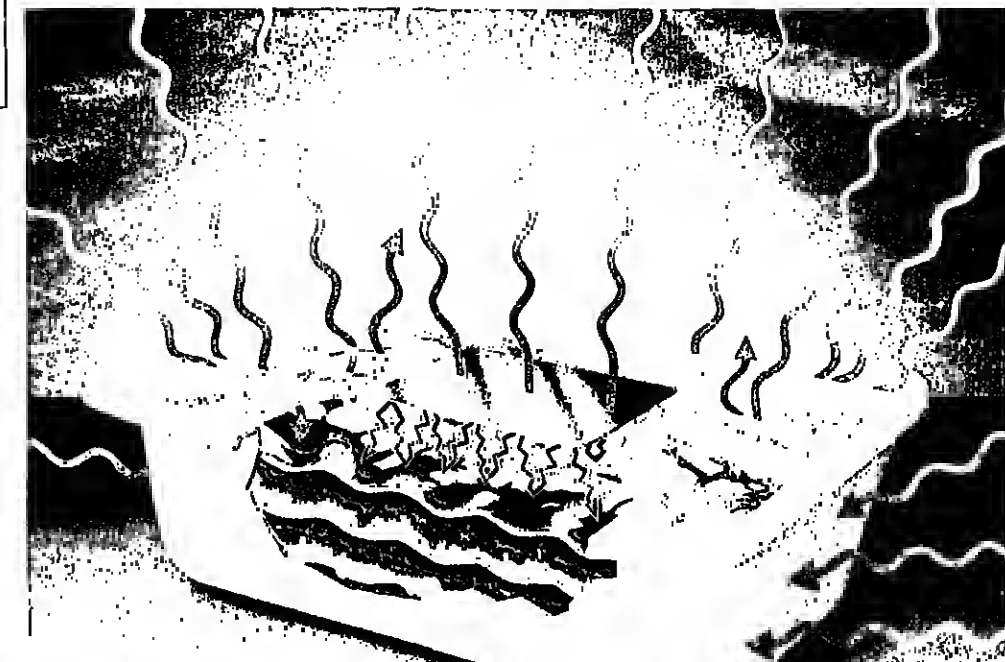
A small keypad input device controls the operating parameters, message construction, variable and enabling functions. The keypad can be used as an integral part of the controller or it can be connected by a flexible cable for remote operations through an RS232 interface.

Built for flexibility, the laser coder operates in temperatures ranging from 40 to 120deg F, says the company.

For further information... K12 Call for details 0839 772268



Staying hotter for longer



Qwik Balance demonstrated by James River Corporation, is said to deliver uniform heating of food

Technology applicable to both folding cartons and flexible packaging materials which is said to deliver improved quality for microwave cooked food, was demonstrated by James River Corporation.

Qwik Balance technology offers a customised approach in managing microwave energy and is said to deliver uniform heating of food. Qwik Balance helps eliminate frozen centres and burned edges, and the product stays hotter for longer, says the company (One Better Way Road, Milford, OH, USA - tel: +45150 2743).

For further information... K12 Call for details 0839 772268

Three dimensional size changes in 15 minutes or less

What is claimed to be the world's first fully automatic RSC case packer featuring 'no tool' changeover was launched by Focke & Co.

Three dimensional size changes can be accomplished in 15 minutes or less, says the company (UK: Courtenay Works, Monument Way East, Woking, Surrey, - tel: 0483 736094, fax: 756099). All major adjustments during size changes are made by easy to use spindles, with each one equipped with digital indicators for repeatable positive changeover.

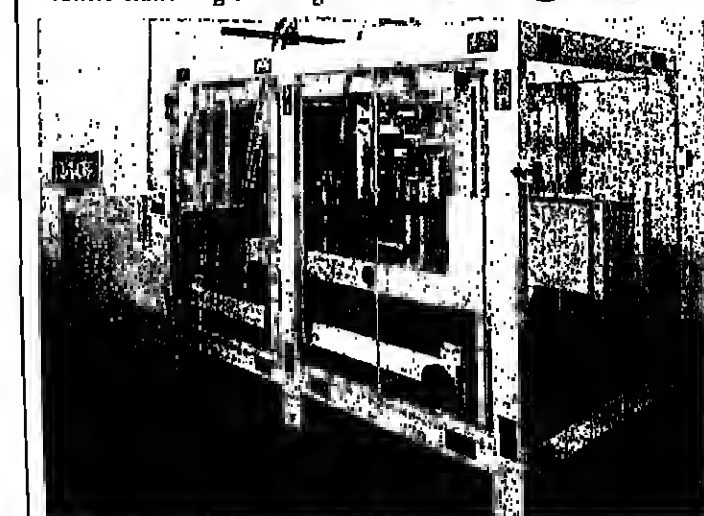
The Model 486 case packer can pack a variety of rigid and semi rigid containers such as cans, bottles, cartons and bags into a large case size range. Gentle handling for fragile

products such as cereals, crackers and snack food is provided by one of the many infeed and collating systems available for the equipment.

"We've designed this system to meet today's more demanding requirements of the packaging industry," says manager of general packaging for Focke in the US, John Mohaupt. "Fast, no-tool changeover and operator friendly controls are important features for just in time delivery schedules, meeting ISO 9000 requirements and reducing operator training time," he says.

Also demonstrated was the Model 446 wraparound case packer, the Model 381 over wrapper and 531 palletiser.

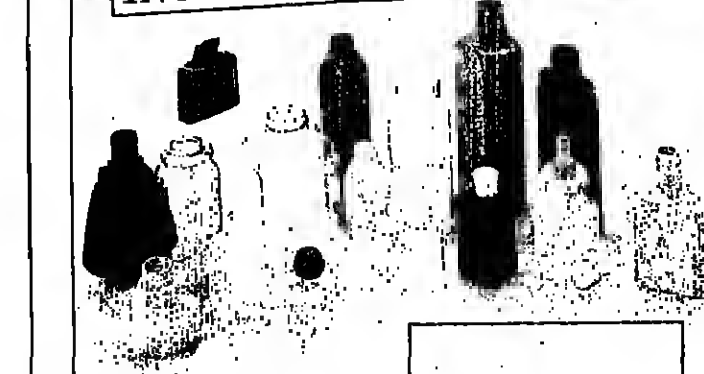
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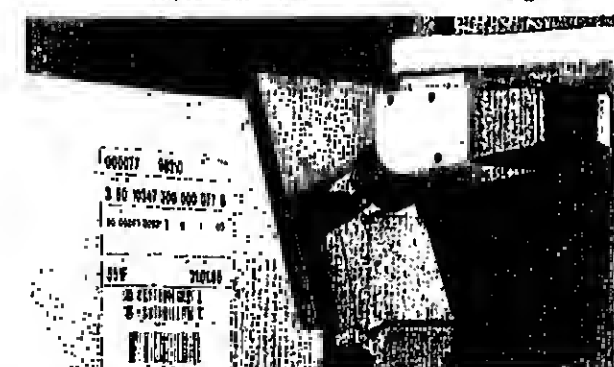
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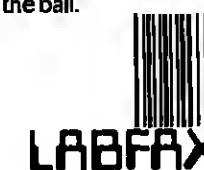


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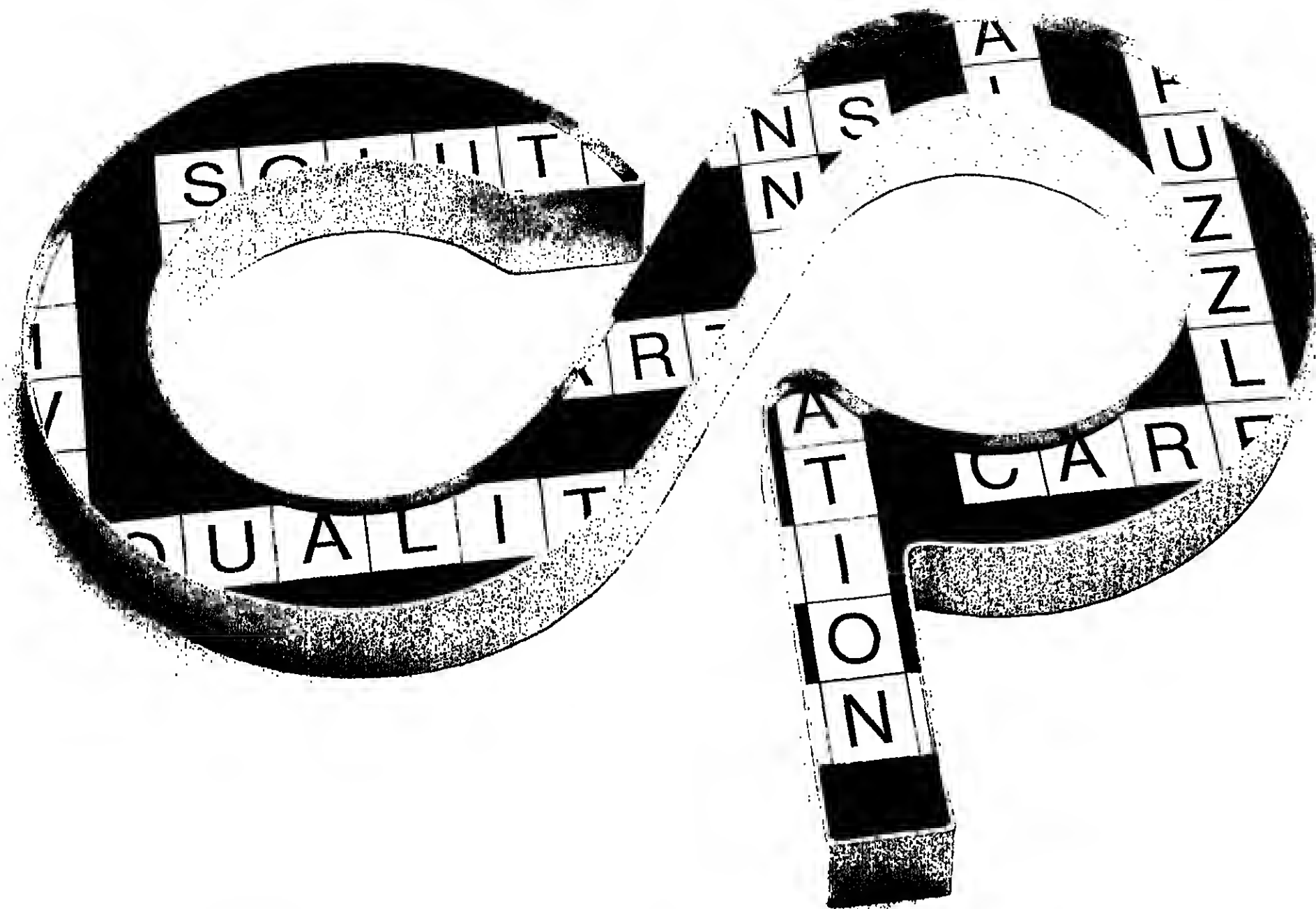
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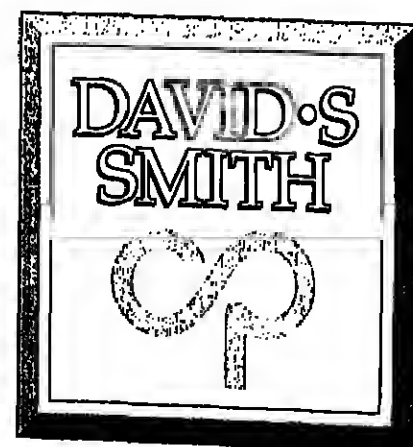
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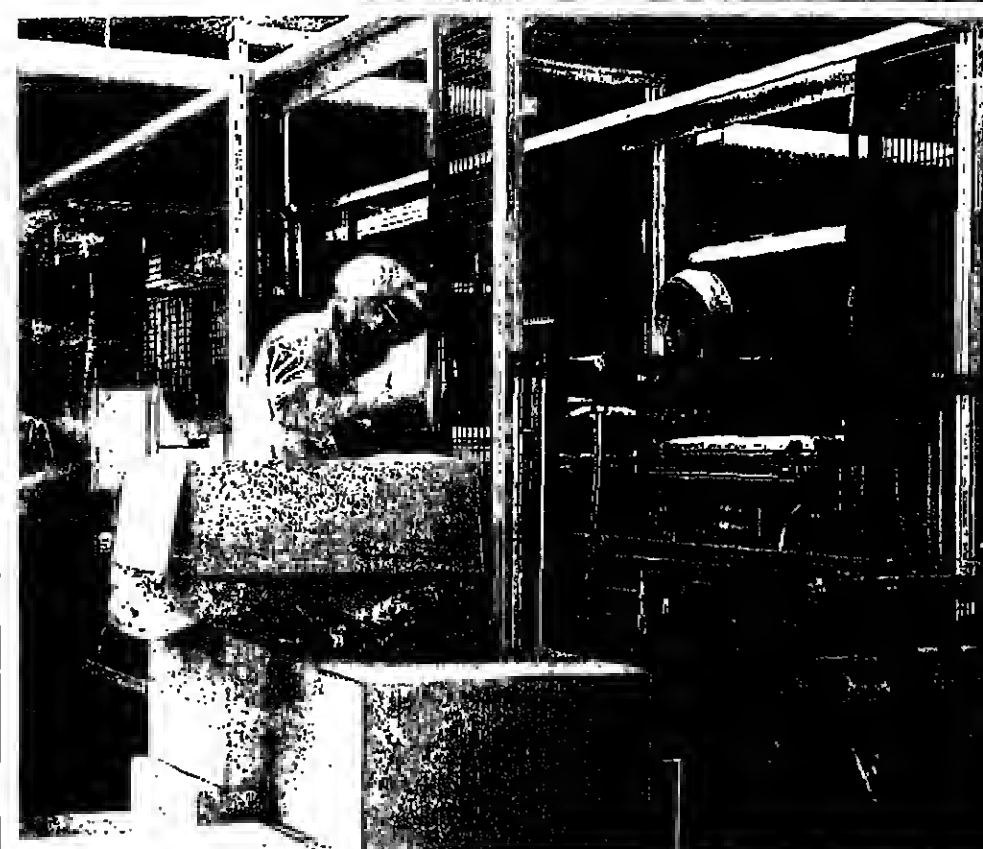
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COMPANY NEWS



MY Sharp Interpack has invested around £200,000 in a new Alloyd 2400 Thermotamer, following a large rise in blister sales. To meet the increase in orders, the company (0304 840661) has also decided to upgrade five other machines already on site.

Lipac Metal Packaging, part of the Lipac Packaging Group, will be restructuring its organisation from the New Year, with its four production sites operating as a single business unit. The four sites are at Reading (01734 441144), Cwmbran, Caldicot and Darlington.

PT Petrokimia Nusantara Interindo (PT PNI) is to expand its BP Chemicals gas phase technology plant at Murak in Indonesia. Confirmation of the project, which will double capacity to 400,000 tonnes per year, will come by the end of January '95. The plant is 51 per cent owned by BP (071-5811388).

RIG Rentsch (010 34 62 470111) shareholders have given final approval to a takeover offer from Australian group Amcor. The Swiss-

based manufacturer's principal products include quality paper, board and composite packaging.

CT Film, a division of the US Rexene Corporation, has officially opened a £13.5 million production site in Souththorpe. CT Film (0724 280654) runs four other plants, although this is the first in the UK.

W.R. Grace & Co has announced its acquisition of Schnurpack Multiflex GmbH, a subsidiary of the Schnur group, for approximately \$40 million. Product from the German plant, which includes laminates, shrink bags and pouches for the food industry, will be an excellent fit with the Cryovac business, says Grace (081-965 0611).

Parkside International plc is investing £1.8 million in a third Windmiller & Hoischer Startlex

light colour flexo press. The Startlex will be commissioned early next year, and will help maintain production levels during the move of the principal factory (0632 771157) to a new Leeds site.

Labelling Dynamics has purchased Arpeco printing and converting equipment worth £650,000. This will include an Arpeco Tracker II slitting, rewinding and inspection machine, the first of its type in the UK. Next year, Labelling Dynamics (091-415 0666) is building a £2.6 million factory and investing in equipment of a similar value.

Sealed Air Ltd has acquired Harsford Paper in a move designed to give the manufacturer (01538 316700) a greater presence in the food packaging business, particularly in absorbency pads for major

retailers. Each company will continue to operate under its established name.

Decotect (0704 577736) has been appointed UK and European distributor for the US CDF Corporation, a major manufacturer of drum liners and inserts for products such as chemicals, inks, waste and adhesives.

Morden Edwards & Co has increased its representation worldwide with the appointment of M&H Sales as its agent in Ireland, Trillium in Canada and Tecnoco in Mexico for its overwrapping machinery, says the company (0202 881200).

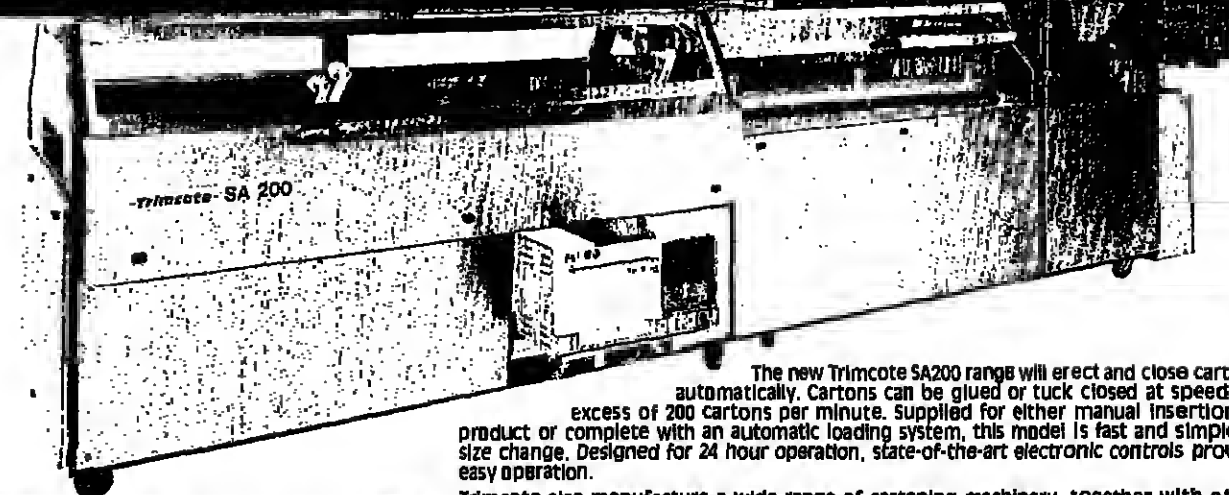
La Verrerie Medicale, the French ampoule manufacturer, has been awarded the Quality Vendor certificate by the Wellcome Foundation. Part of the Schott group, the manufacturer is represented in the UK by sole agent Adelphi (Tubes) Ltd (0444 440091).

Jacob White (Packaging) Ltd is setting up a spare and servicing subsidiary operation with a staff of 12 at its Darford site. Jacob White Spares and Services will also upgrade customers machines when necessary says the cartoning equipment manufacturer (01322 291525).

Alphapak by has announced the opening of new offices at Great Dunmow, Essex, with product ranges including Sytan polyolefin shrinkfilms. Alphapak UK (0371 875245) is a wholly owned subsidiary of Stevens Holding.

British Polythene's plant in Xinhu, China, is scheduled for completion this month, with shipments of vest style carrier bags and bags on the roll beginning in the second quarter of 1995, says British Polythene company Allied Packaging (01773 530530).

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The new Trimcote SA200 range will erect and close cartons automatically. Cartons can be glued or tuck closed at speeds in excess of 200 cartons per minute. Supplied for either manual insertion of product or complete with an automatic loading system, this model is fast and simple to size change. Designed for 24 hour operation, state-of-the-art electronic controls provide easy operation.

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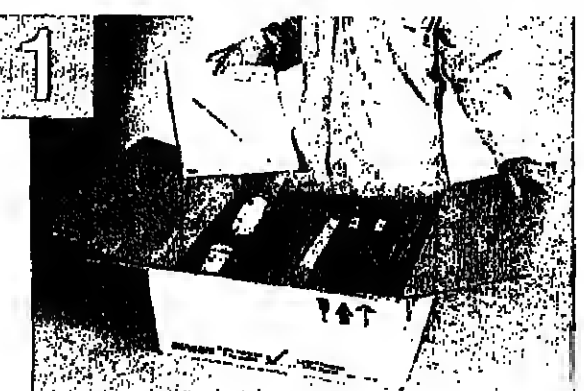
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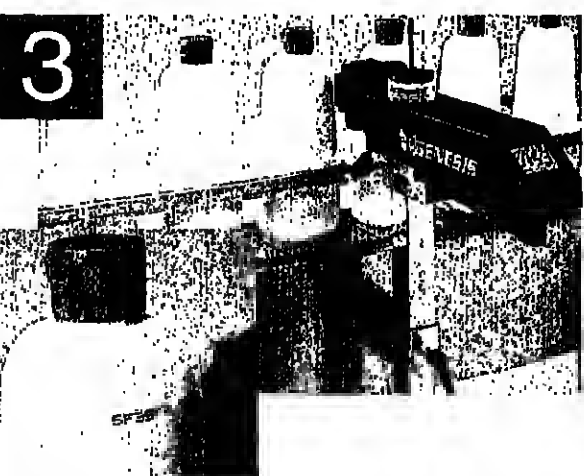
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NOTICE

The Jenton Group is pleased to announce the relocation of its Sales and Accounts departments to new offices at its Whitchurch (Hants) premises.

FROM 1ST JANUARY 1995
The address of all departments will be:
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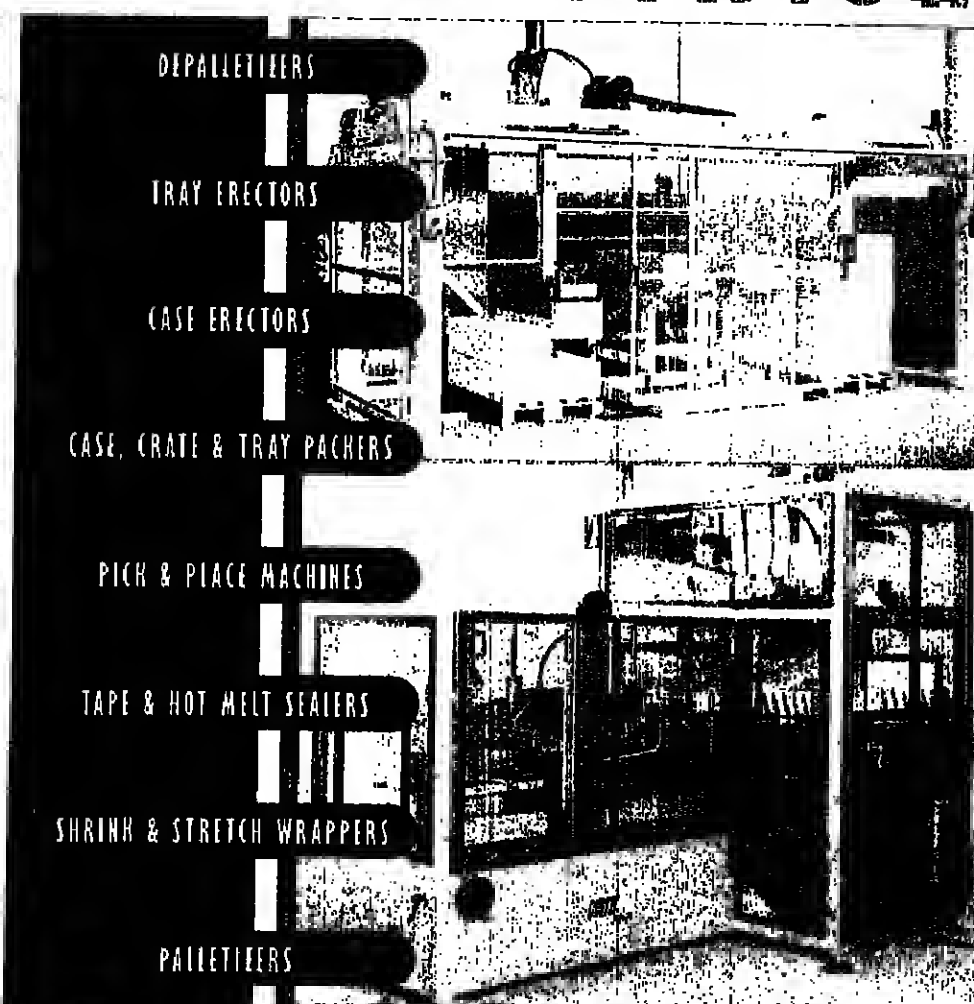
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The existing offices at St. Mary Bourne will reopen as a new laboratory and showroom in the New Year.

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Bulk filler for low acid dairy

A bulk filler for low acid dairy product has been launched by David S Smith Liquid Packaging, with the capability of working with a variety of bags and outer boxes of between 200 and 1000 litres volume.

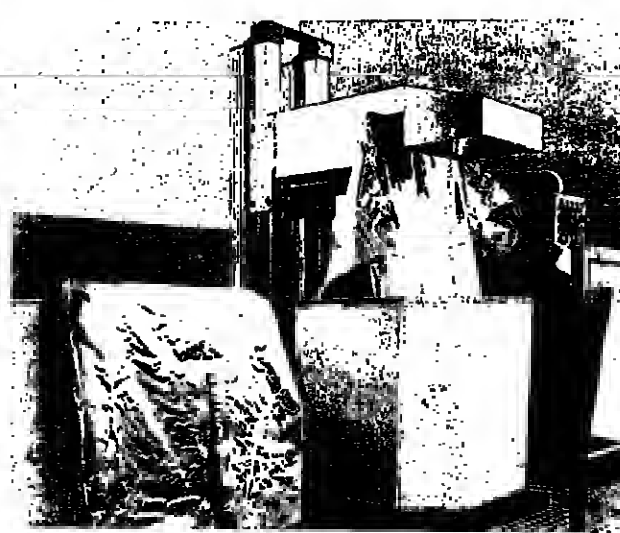
The system uses the Intasept aseptic double membrane technology, said to offer a 100 per cent sterility transfer guarantee. With FDA accreditation, Intasept is believed to be the only system offering this.

But such a guarantee is crucial in the handling of low acid dairy products, says Malcolm Shipway, technical manager at David S Smith. "The outer box has to be of a specification which will protect that sensitive product," he adds.

The filling head can be adjusted on twin masts, allowing all known types of rigid box to be filled on the integral roller platform. Either flow meter or weigh load cell technology can be used, with dispensing from bulk supply or a header tank. Fill speed varies according to product viscosity.

After filling with liquid or particulate, the box is moved on to be weighed and coded. The filler can be used for small batch inter company transfer of aseptic products, says David S Smith (Unit 13, Brookgate, Ashton Vale Trading Estate, Bristol BS3 2UN - tel: 0117 9636146, fax: 9231071).

Aseptic ingredients can be introduced as part of a



1000 litre aseptic bulk filler from David S Smith Liquid Packaging

recipe without the need for secondary processing, says the manufacturer.

One container that has been used successfully with the filler is the Octabox from Walton Industrial Containers (St. Helens Auckland Industrial Estate, Bishop Auckland, Co Durham DL14 9AX - tel: 0388 606797, fax: 661184). The container uses a plywood and film structure designed to cushion any impact.

The Intasept aseptic range includes single and double head semi and fully automatic models for volumes up to 30 litres and a bulk filler for bags between 200 and 250 litres. There is also a non aseptic filling range.

For further information K12 Call for details 135 0839 772268

WALTON: K12 Call for details 136 0839 772268

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Recycled cushioning mesh

Protective packaging using only recycled paper is now available from Jiffy Packaging Company, supplied on the reel and taking on a three-dimensional cushion mesh when fully stretched.

Flextra is formed by perforating flat paper with thousands of tiny slits. The material reels can be supplied in conjunction with a range of dispensing systems, including the Flextra Matic which will automatically dispense single or multi layer quantities for hand packing.

When stretched, the material forms a honeycomb which, especially in more than one layer, will provide effective and long-lasting protection for transit, says Jiffy. Because it locks into place, the cushioning effect is not lost over time, according to the company. "We researched the market and also anticipated its needs," says md Peter Lewis.

Potential markets are seen as being companies involved in general wrapping - of car parts or gifts, for example - void filling, block and brace, cushioning of fragile goods, interleaving and surface protection.

The simplest dispensing system is the Flextra Hclpa, ideal for single sheet applications. The Flextra Stretchler is an automatic system with speed variation. With the Flextra Matic, nine product options are available from the same machine, including pressure welded multilayer combinations with different facing sheet options.

The two manual machines will be sold to companies requiring them, while the largest system will be rented with after sales service from Jiffy. The manufacturer says the Flextra Matic will offer significant value for money given the particular benefits of the system.

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WALTON: K12 Call for details 136 0839 772268

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Bruce Wilson-North

Bruce Wilson-North, previously commercial director, is now general manager of Elopak Ltd. Mr Wilson-North has worked with companies including Metal Box and Courtaulds. His ambitions include ensuring that dairies have a genuine choice of materials and philosophies.

Alan Reeve has been appointed executive director and Janet Cohen non-executive director at John Waddington plc. Mr Reeve currently has responsibility for the group's packaging and labelling business. Mrs Cohen's other non-executive directorships include the Charterhouse Bank Ltd.

Lindsay Fortune has been elected chairman of Inspec, with Michael Stone as his deputy. Mr Fortune, head of health, environment and safety services for Courtaulds plc, takes over from Michael Armstrong. Mr Stone is director of environmental affairs for David Smith.

Brian Curtis, md of Carnard-Metalbox Foodcan UK, and

John Bence, senior vice president of European packaging operations at Stone Container Corporation, have accepted invitations to become vice presidents of the Institute of Packaging.

James Crick has joined Physic Containers as md of the Dairy



James Crick

and food divisions, one of the four within the container business - underlining the company's determination to run each division as a separate business. Mr Crick was formerly general manager at Zeller Plastik in the UK.

Jim Mitchell has taken over as sales director at Mono Containers, after eight years with Wavin Industrial Products. Kim McKay will take up responsibility for developing business in the north of England and in Scotland as business development manager. The company is centralising its sales and customer care functions at Durham.

Tony Dimech has joined the management team of Sellotape



Tony Dimech

GB as sales and business development manager for the industrial division. In his new role, Mr Dimech will extend the duties carried out previously as sales development manager.

Manfred Brandt has been appointed technical services manager for Klöckner Bartsch's Cloud high speed pouch machinery. Mr Brandt will oversee service in the UK and the rest of Europe from Chesterfield, Derbyshire.

Malcolm Vale has been appointed technical support manager at Supastrip International, a division of PP Payne Ltd. He will give technical support to customers in the UK and the rest of Europe.



Malcolm Vale

Bernard Hamann is now sales manager at Payne's US sister company Supastrip Inc for Latin America.

Philip Rawlinson has played a leading role in the formation of Keane Graphic Products' pre-press division with his appointment as product manager. The

division will offer the full range of litho plates, chemicals and equipment.

Stewart Vass has joined contract manufacturer and filler Fleet Laboratories, part of the DDD group, as quality assurance manager. Formerly he was with Johnson and Johnson.

Colin Wright has been appointed operations manager, caps and closure production, at RPC Halstead, previously part of McKee's Packaging. Mr Wright has held senior management positions with Smiths Containers and Airopak.



Mike Hodge

Mike Hodge is now sales representative at Fishburn Inks, a division of BASF Coatings and Inks Ltd, with responsibilities for London and Essex.

Julia Harris will now lead Robinson Special Packaging's presentation packaging and rigid box sales team. Robinson sees presentation packaging as a growth area.

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PACKAGING NEWS/DECEMBER 1994

Passport to Pakex



The passport style ticket produced by Reed Exhibitions for Pakex 95

Over 91 per cent of the stands available at the Pakex 95 exhibition have been sold, which represents 48,000sq m of space. With five months to go, exhibition director Dominique Fraser is confident that the show will be a world class event with over 1200 companies represented.

Addressing a forum of the world's packaging press last month, Ms Fraser outlined the benefits of the collocation of the Food Processing Technology (FPT) and BBT, the drinks processing event with Pakex. She also emphasised that the new ticketing system will make visiting all three events easier.

A visitor who preregisters for any of the shows and indicates principal areas of interest will receive from the organiser a 12-page bespoke passport, allowing him or her to move from one show to another, without the need to reregister.

Other benefits of the system include a personalised map showing the car park nearest to the area of interest indicated and the correct entry point to the show. The main stands will be highlighted on an enlarged floor plan.

Five exhibiting companies took part in the forum, many outlining new products to be launched at the show. Willett (0536 400777) will introduce several new products, including a low cost inkjet coder which will sell for around £4000, an electric foil coder and an infra-red inks and anti-

counterfeiting system.

One unit, which was previewed at Pack Expo in Chicago last month and will be on show at Pakex, is a high speed programmable laser coder, said to provide competitive performance at a competitive cost.

Willett outlined its industrial supplies customer services, including customised labels.

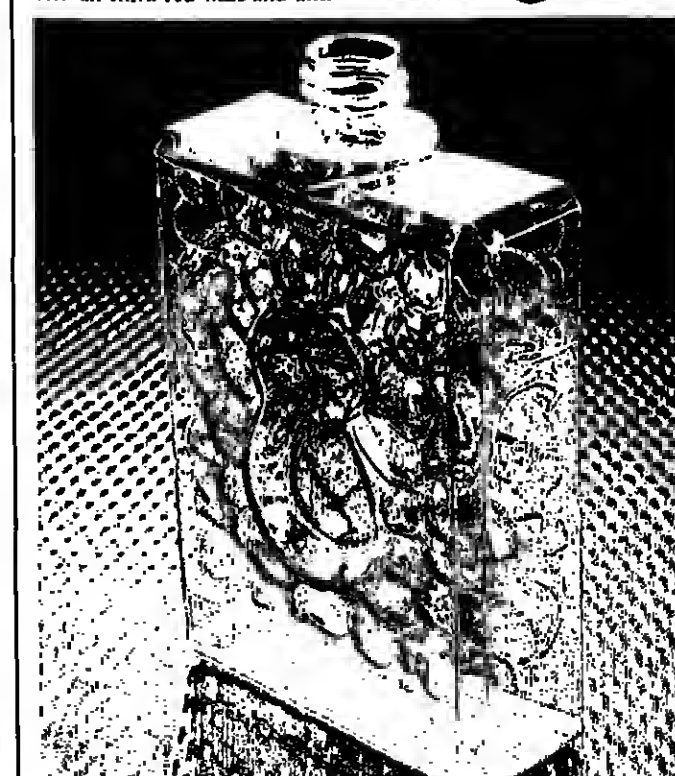
Waddington & Duval (081-540 6810) will show its full range of plastics taps, which are suitable for a wide range of liquids and containers, including four new ones. These are a specialised water butt tap, an air returning tap for smaller containers, a Quick connect tap and the front-push version of the press tap.

CE King Ltd (0932 565191) will launch an eight lane version of its Technocount electronic tablet counter, the 16 lane version having been introduced at this year's PPMA Show. The modular unit is designed to be speedy, flexible and easy to operate.

United Packaging plc (0274 862616) outlined its ranges of pallet stretch wrapping equipment and lidpe films.

For further information, contact Reed Exhibition Companies Ltd (Oriel House, 26 The Quadrant, Richmond, Surrey TW9 1DL - tel: 081-910 7890 (exhibitors) or 081-910 7910 (general enquiries), fax: 081-910 7848).

For further information call 0839 772288



During the Pakex Inward Mission, Dalcam International plc (021-788 5544) gave a demonstration of its Duct range of software for use on cad/cam systems, and the benefits this equipment can bring to the designer of containers. Pictured is a Seldred Ball part-time bottle, designed on the system.

PACKAGING NEWS/DECEMBER 1994

Yes, SURLYN*

For 32 years there hasn't been a packaging film to beat it. Today there still isn't.

Back in 1961 we invented SURLYN ionomer resin. It was a packaging innovation that almost overnight set the industry standards for clarity, sealability,

puncture resistance, strength, formability, sealing temperature flexibility and all-round cost efficiency.

Since then SURLYN has evolved into a whole family of specialized packaging solutions.

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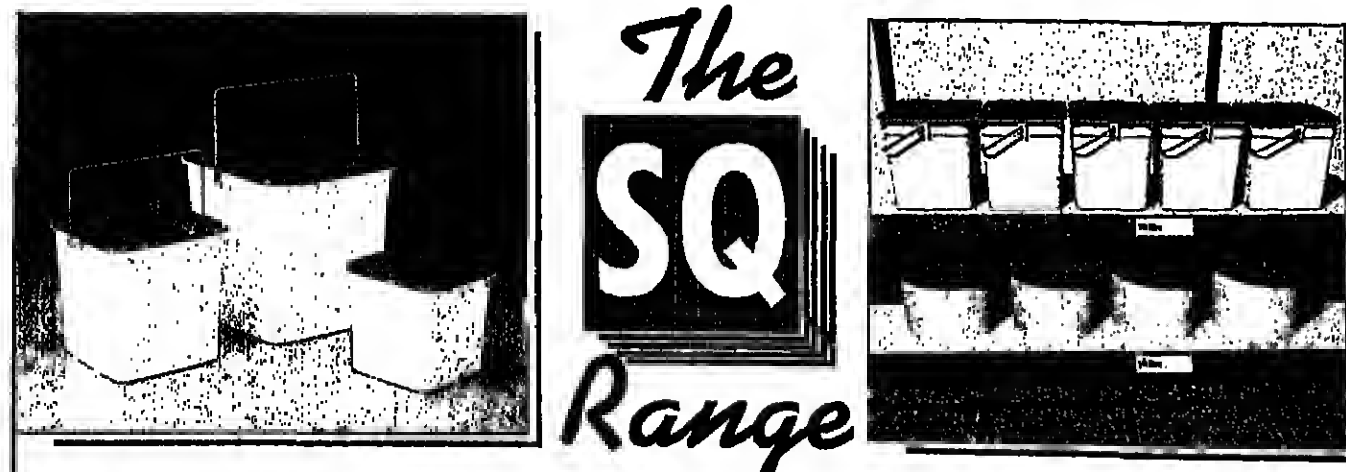
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Thurgar Bolle's SQ range use up to 30% less shelf space with proven savings in both transport and storage costs, when stocked they also provide a compact and powerful display with the availability of 4 colour printing direct onto the sides of the containers. A feature of the new SQ range is a built-in tamper evidence device, designed to provide manufacturers with a simple mechanism to maintain product integrity. The lid can be replaced easily to preserve the quality of any unused contents.

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A savoury upgrading



The Cintax AutoWeigh combination unit: installed as upgrade at Dorset Foods

A combined metal detection and checkweighing installation has gone into Dorset Foods Ltd for screening a variety of savoury foods including scotch eggs and picnic eggs.

The Cintax AutoWeigh unit, combining the AutoSearch digital metal detection system with a CS2000 checkweigher, has been installed as an upgrade to one of Dorset Foods' principal lines. The AutoSearch is said to bring together advanced software and proven search head technology, providing the

highest levels of sensitizing for ferrous and non ferrous metal contaminant screening.

"We decided to upgrade quality control on the savoury products line and selected the AutoWeigh model because it offers a proven and well built system," says Dorset, part of Northern Foods.

Product weights vary from 200 to 300g, checked against European average weight legislation. The checkweigher also features a printer to give data management reports. An air

operated arm automatically rejects underweight packs or product where metal is detected. The system is finished in stainless steel to provide corrosion resistance and the hygiene levels required by the food industry, says Cintax (Unit 12, Trident Industrial Estate, Blackthorne Rd, Colnbrook, Slough, Berks SL3 - tel: 0753 685261, fax: 681814).

Dorset Foods has also ordered a stand alone CS2000 checkweigher from Cintax.

The machine manufacturer has developed an automatic self test system for metal detectors where equipment is inaccessible to standard test procedures. The system is designed to validate the operation of throat detectors on vertical fill machines.

Without interrupting product flow, the test unit automatically inserts a calibrated stick into the coil's electromagnetic field at intervals that can be preset.

For further information K12 Call for details 0838 772288

Integration, higher accuracy and - with checkweighers - direct feedback capability to filling are just some of the features increasingly demanded by end users. As a market update, we offer a selection of installation case studies involving metal detection and checkweighing equipment from the major manufacturers.

Networked pre-fill checking of bottles

Networked pre-fill checkweighing of blowmoulded HDPE bottles is to provide BP Chemicals Bottles and Closures with quality control at its Leicester production site.

With weightfilling customers in mind, BP is ensuring consistently tighter tolerances by installing checkweighers from German manufacturer Optima. Trend information from the network will also allow for correction to bottle weights before they drift out of tolerance limits. Replacing regular manual quality control checks, the automatic system will free up staff.

"Up to now we have checkweighed samples from each blowmoulding machine on a regular time interval, which has given a quite reasonable level of control. Now we will be able to weigh every bottle, maintaining a more accurate standard tolerance," says factory manager Max Parker. "We will also have a record of the weight of every bottle for confirmation to customers."

Optima's UK agent Sussex

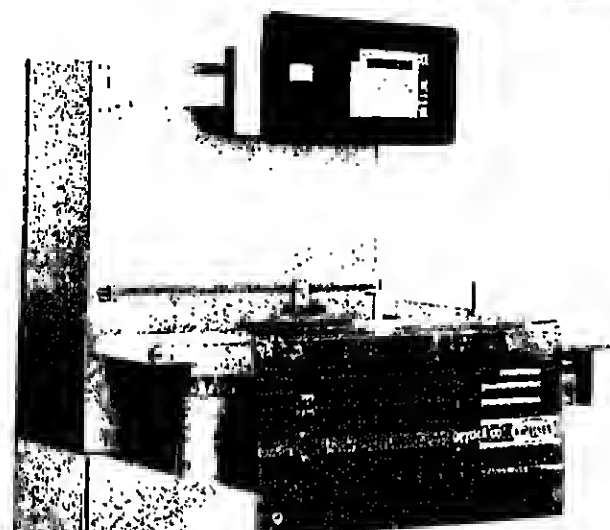
& Berkshire Machinery is supplying EC1000 checkweighers and a CC1000. These reach a tolerance of $\pm 0.5g$ on a range of HDPE bottles from 250ml to 5 litres. Products filled range from food and drink to household chemicals and motor oil.

The machines operate in full 'policeman' mode, automatically rejecting any container falling outside preset parameters, says S&B (Black-

nest, Alton, Hants GU34 4PX - tel: 0430 22664, fax: 22687).

There is also a central pc in the production offices where management information can be stored and retrieved as necessary. "Supervisors will now be able to check on any of the blowmoulding machines at any time to ensure they are running correctly," says Mr Parker.

For further information K12 Call for details 0838 772288



Optima CC1000 checkweigher: operates in full policeman mode

Checking Gummi Bears, Fried Eggs and Killer Whales

Checking of children's confectionery is being entrusted to Loma Systems' Superscan Micro metal detectors, installed at the German Gummi Bear factory in Germany.

All tastes are catered for at the factory, which produces around 100 chewy shapes varying from the classic Gummi Bear to Orca Killer Whales and Fried Eggs. Computer control combines with visual checking up to the bagging stage.

Soon after they are packed, the sweets are scanned by the Loma equipment, which uses pushers to reject contaminated product. Line speed is up to 100 bags a minute.

Gummi originally used detectors from another manufacturer, but these did not prove satisfactory, says works director Gunter Tilsner. "We have been very impressed with the Superscan Micros' performance," he says. "They are extremely sensitive, very user

friendly and their multiple product memory is particularly useful to us as we handle so many different varieties."

The installation of the metal detectors enables the company to meet its internal quality requirements and those of customers, including some of the largest European retailers, says Gummi.

Being well built, the equipment is also said to fit in well with the modern design of the factory as a whole.

Gummi packs product into polybags varying in size from mini inflight bags to family packs and also into tubs. Two further Superscan units have been ordered for the Boizenberg plant, one of which will be installed on a tub line, says Loma (Southwood, Farnborough, Hants GU14 0NY - tel: 0252 540346, fax: 513322).

Three units have also been ordered for a second factory being built at Hagenow by Gummi, one of the fastest growing children's confectionery manufacturers in Germany.

Loma Superscan Micro metal detectors check packets of sweets at the Gummi Bear factory in Boizenburg, Germany

For further information K12 Call for details 0838 772288

Pregnancy scan makes sure nothing is missing

Checkweighers from Anritsu are being used in a two stage checking installation at pregnancy test kit manufacturer Unipath as part of an expansion programme.

Unipath, which produces the Clearblue Pregnancy test kits, is extending its product range. As part of this expansion, the company is to install Anritsu's KW600AU model, which has an accuracy of 0.03g, weighing each test unit direct from the flowwrapping machine. The aim here is to confirm that the tester is actually inside the pack, but also that all components are present.

A second Anritsu is to be positioned after the cartoning and overwrapping stage, ensuring that no products or leaflets are missing.

Unipath has been able to monitor the reliability of this system from previous installations of the same model checkweigher. "The Anritsu checkweighers were chosen because of the reliability and excellent reputation they have acquired over a number of

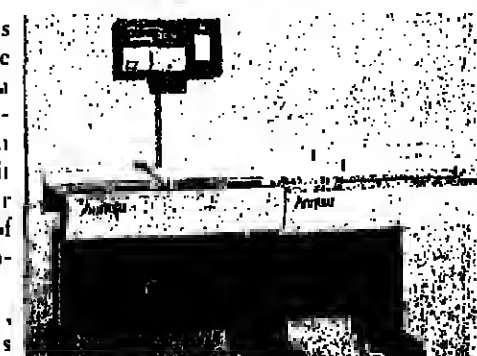
years within our factory on existing production lines," says Gary Wood of Unipath.

Anritsu has launched its range of FC checkweighers, available from January '95 from UK agent Skerman Pro-mac (162 Windmill Road West, Sunbury on Thames, Middx TW16 7HB - tel: 0932 789646, fax: 761830).

The FC machines incorporate an easy to read display, up to 50 product parameters, electronic damping and the Total Timing System which avoids the need for complex weight and delay time presetting. With this system only product length and speed are required.

The high tolerance weigh head monitors any variation in product weight.

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Graseby Bering Kerr's USP pharmaceutical metal detection system

Pharmaceutical winner

A French pharmaceutical laboratory has opted for metal detection equipment from Graseby Bering Kerr, which won the contract in the face of fierce competition from other manufacturers.

Producing capsules for the over the counter drugs market, LTM required precise and sensitive screening of its product, citing these benefits as the main advantages of the Graseby TER USP pharmaceutical sys-

tem. A sensitivity of 0.13mm was achieved in tests in France as opposed to 0.15 reached with rival equipment.

The all stainless steel machine consists of a search head, reject system and stand. Its sensitivity derives from the use of a digital signal processor, says Graseby (Vale Road, Windsor, Berks SL4 5JX - tel: 0753 869351, fax: 840079).

For further information K12 Call for details 0839 772288

A crisper style of checking

Golden Wonder has completed the installation of 35 Ishida checkweighers over two sites, with seal testing inline also supplied by Ishida equipment.

The 17 checkweighers on the Corby site - operating since the summer - and 18 at Wilnes are all from Ishida's DACS.V series. The majority installed are the 012 model, used to check average and minimum weight on a variety of snacks including crisps and Wotsits in 30g bags. There are also 050 models checking multipacks.

Ishida-Nonpareil seal testers - the INT100 single tube and INT200 double tube versions - provide a quality check for all bags.

The DACS.V range employs dynamic calibration to

allow for high accuracy maintained even at the highest line speeds. Its anti floor vibration loadcell also permits high accuracy performance even in hostile factory environments.

The computer system includes a 50 product memory, and unlike other systems takes account not only of target weight but also linear belt speed to help ensure that maximum efficiency is achieved.

Automatic computation of average weight parameters is

possible, allowing for different targets while ensuring that targets beneath legal average weight settings cannot be entered through operator error.

Histograms are among the screen displays possible with the system. An integral printer gives quality control, production and product setting details, available in real time and

pack count intervals. Features include a conveyor which is easily removable



The DACS.V 012 checkweigher

for quick cleaning, keeping downtime to a minimum, says Ishida (Crystal Drive, Smethwick, Warley, W Midlands B66 1RJ - tel: 021-541 1441, fax: 021-544 4659).

Ishida-Nonpareil's INT100 and 200 seal testers offer the non destructive testing of packs, with reject product which can then be repacked. They can cope with variable fill volume - a common problem with snacks such as crisps - due to the multiple function test incorporated into the software.

Leaks as small as 0.5mm in diameter can be detected, with tests carried out successfully when the pack is in almost any orientation.

These systems can link up to 100 machines, says Driver

also priorities.

The machine runs in its twintrack format using the Hitech HA (high accuracy) weighcells, good results have been obtained in production conditions. In fact, the twin-track system can weigh up to 160 aerosols a side.

Accuracies of $\pm 12\text{mg}$ are achieved, says Hitech (Dolphin Way, Shoreham by Sea, W Sussex BN43 6NZ - tel: 0273 454511, fax: 454471). The software algorithms used ensure that this consistency is maintained, says the company.

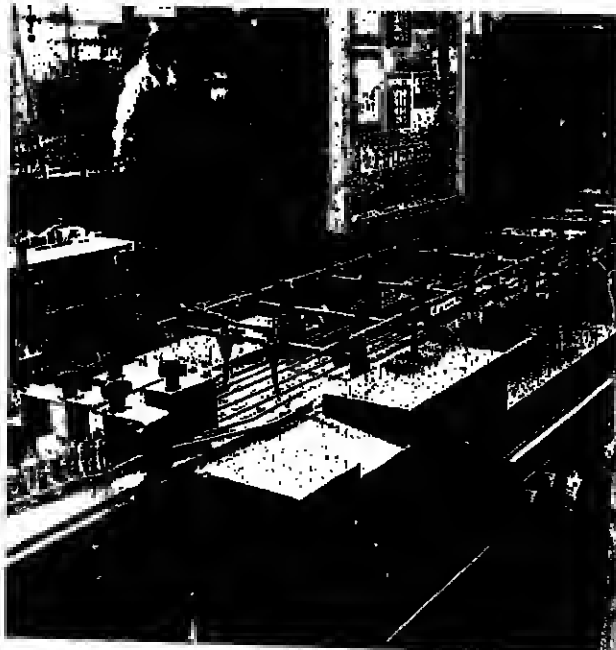
Miniature scrolls

Pitching of the small aerosols is via miniature scrolls, with an air jet providing automatic reject for product that is not within the given tolerances.

There is also a printout capability to satisfy UK minimum, EU average and US Federal legislation, available at the push of a button.

For further information K12 Call for details 0839 772288

High speed scanning of anti-asthma aerosols



The first application for Hitech Electronic Controls' Tribune II checkweigher, specifically for pharmaceutical lines, is for the high speed checking of anti-asthma inhaler aerosols.

Installed at an unspecified manufacturer, the Tribune is handling aerosols measuring just 19mm in diameter and a slightly larger size at speeds of up to 200 products a minute.

"The high accuracy is the crucial feature," says Hitech and Cliff Hannam, although handling of such a difficult product and ensuring that aerosols are not damaged were

The twin track Tribune II checkweigher available from Hitech Electronic Controls

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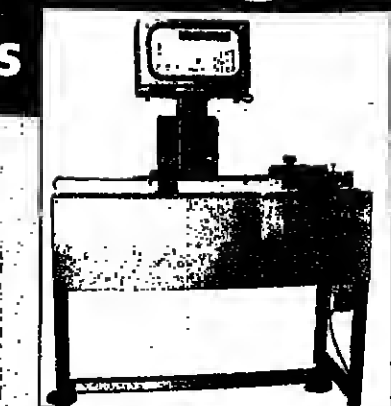
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Networking for speed and cost efficiency

Networking of different checkweigher models is giving Eden Vale Minsterley central management information capabilities, linking its existing battery of nine machines for greater speed and cost efficiency.

The latest microprocessing electronics have been used in the upgrade to the Driver Southall P90 and P450 checkweighers already equipped to download product settings - average weight, total acceptable weight, total reject weight, for example - with the management information system (MIS) now allowing central control by a single manager.

These systems can link up to 100 machines, says Driver

Southall (Unit 18, Maybrook Industrial Estate, Maybrook Road, Brownhills, Walsall WS8 7DG - tel: 0543 375566, fax: 375979). Software can be written to end user requirements.

"We have a large variety of different flavours and sizes of product processed at speeds of up to 9000 pots an hour and we see the investment in a MIS as an essential quality safeguard," says factory engineer John Harvey.

Information can be disseminated to or retrieved from the various weighers in the factory and stored with a capacity for retaining up to 2500 product/retailer combinations.

For further information K12 Call for details 0839 772288

Conveyor system keeps up confectionery standards

A bespoke conveyorised system is enabling Concept Foods of Leeds to screen confectionery product for all metal types.

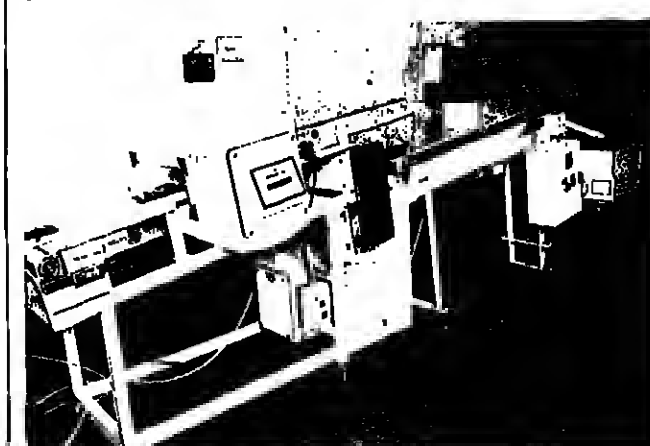
Supplying different high street retailers, Concept wanted to match or exceed their high standards, says produc-

tion director Susie Stewart. "We needed a super sensitive metal detector to identify every piece of metal, irrespective of type, including stainless steel," says Ms Stewart.

Safeline integrated one of its metal detectors with a customised conveyor or system into Concept's automated production line between the flowwrap and retail packing stages. When a suspect pack is identified, the line is automatically stopped.

A performance validation routine can give a hard copy printout of all test parameters when checks are carried out with contaminated samples twice an hour.

Before selecting this equipment, Concept made a thor-



Conveyorised metal detectors have been installed at Concept Foods and, here, Bolling Coffee in Huddersfield

ough study of the market, carrying out not only machine trials but research into each manufacturer, says Safeline (Montford Street, Salford M5 2SN - tel: 061-848 8636, fax: 061-848 8595).

A similar conveyorised system has been installed by Safeline at Bolling Coffee in Huddersfield. This line required scanning of ground coffee in metallised sachets and, like the Concept system, needed high sensitivity to all metals.

Safeline's digital technology means that systems can be preprogrammed to recognise and ignore metal elements in the packaging.

The Bolling installation also required the flexibility of a reliable multi product memory, while also fitting into the company's specification of a "realistic price".

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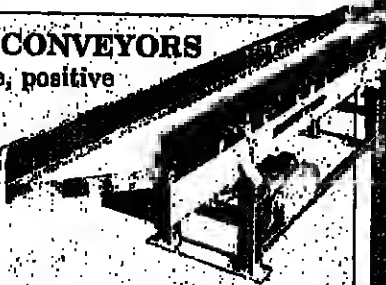
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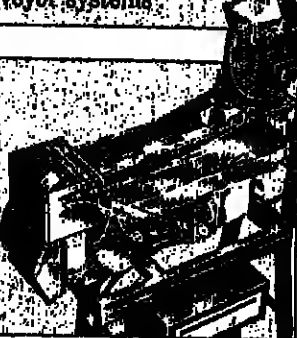


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Web tension controls for thermal transfer ribbons

Hot stamping foil manufacturer Peerless Foils has entered the thermal transfer ribbon market with the installation of a Dusenbery 635 TTR slitter-rewind to produce 50-150mm wide reels for coding and labelling machines.

Web tension control

The polyester film, with its heat sensitive coating, is 4µm thick, which makes web tension control particularly important, points out Dusenbery (Shuttleworth Road, Bedford MK41 01S - tel: 0234 349561, fax: 0234 261844). Peerless Foils' production director Barrie Hughes describes the machine as 'smooth'.

To achieve this, the 635 TTR uses an integral shaftless unwind stand which is fully

driven with a low inertia dancer roll control to create web tension. In the slitting

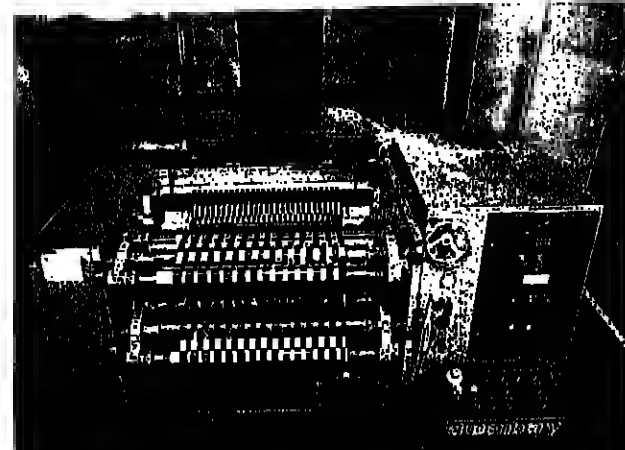
section, tension is maintained by an independent system of driven pull rolls while, at the rewind, tension required is pre-programmed and controlled by load cells which automatically adjust torque on the run.

Web tension control

The machine is a twin turret unit and slits via razor blades, individually mounted for ease of width changeover. Leader and trailer tapes are inserted automatically in 20 seconds, compared with the two minutes required for a manual operation, says Dusenbery.

Currently, the 635 TTR slitter at Peerless Foils is operating from a 650mm wide parent reel. However, coating widths are soon to double to 1300mm and Dusenbery is designing a new generation of slitters to match.

For further information, call 01234 349561 or 0234 261844.



Dusenbery 635 TTR slitter-rewind: smooth running on pe film

Knives lock to give fast width change

Reductions of up to 90 per cent in the time taken to make slit width changes are claimed for a system that locks top and bottom knives together as they are moved, preserving the correct cutting relationship and avoiding any need to reset the tools.

Developed by Italian manufacturer Mario Cotta Engineering, the Expando slitter system employs a small pneumatic cylinder in each top knife holder. For changeover, the cylinders are activated, engaging a lug with a corresponding groove in the bottom knife, so allowing the entire cutting group to be repositioned in one movement, explains UK agent Simplex-Turbulo Co (Wherwell Priory, Wherwell, Hants SP11 7JH - tel: 0264 860186, fax: 0264 860180).

Cutting groups are repositioned either by hand against calibrations on the slide rail or,

when the bottom knife is supported on a pneumatic expanding shaft, can be moved remotely via Cotta's Translator system. This mounts behind the slitting heads, automatically moving each to its new position under instructions from a hand-held key pad or computer program.

Also now available from Simplex-Turbulo is the Zenit Master separation roll that allows slit webs to be wound onto a single shaft without risk of inter-winding. Able to provide a gap up to 2 per cent of initial web width between each slit section, the Zenit roll provides an expansion surface of near perfect proportion, says Simplex-Turbulo, by using separate rubber strands held between inclined bearings.

For further information, call 01264 860186 or 0264 860180.

High speed knife holders

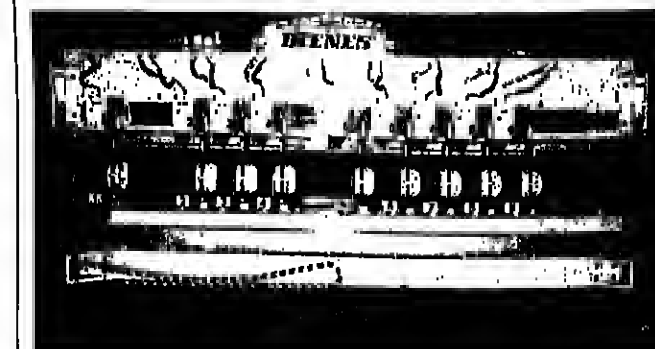
Pneumatically operated knife holders capable of running at web speeds in excess of 2,000 metres/min with shear cut or crush cut knives have been introduced by Engelmann and Buckham Machinery, UK agent for German manufacturer Dienes.

The PSG-DP model is able to accommodate knives of 130, 150 or 180mm diameter and can be equipped with quick change knives which involve

the operator replacing a knife and bearing assembly, without affecting slitting width, says E & B (Buckham House, Lenton Street, Alton, Hants GU34 1HH - tel: 0120 824311).

When operating with heavy gauge materials, the knife holder can be supplied with additional air cylinder modules to provide increased pressure in the down stroke.

For further information, call 0120 824311 or 0120 824312.



Dienes fully automatic shear cut knife positioning system

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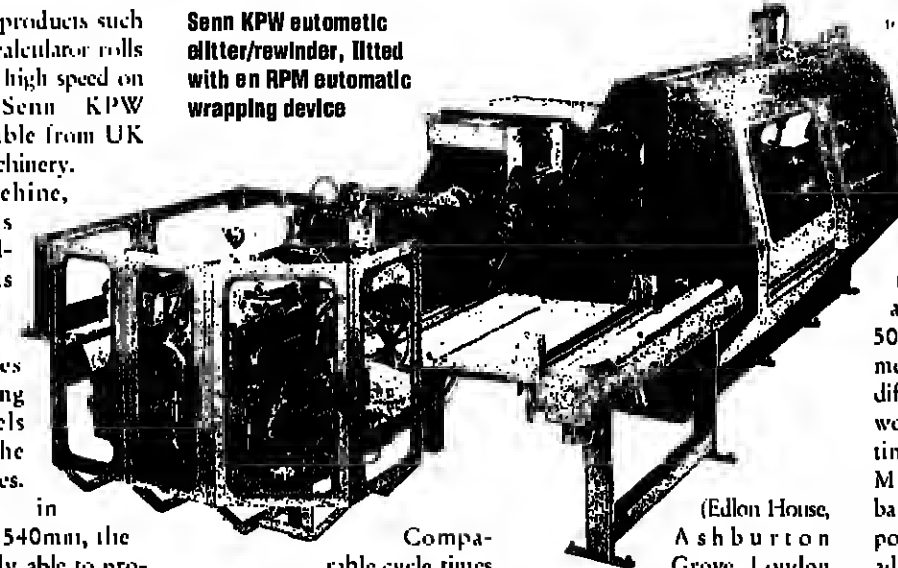
Small diameters at high speed

Small diameter products such as tax, till and calculator rolls are produced at high speed on the Georg Senn KPW machine, available from UK agent Edlon Machinery.

The machine, which employs the surface winding principle, is completely automatic with operator duties limited to loading new parent reels and filling the hopper with cores.

Available in widths up to 1540mm, the KPW is typically able to produce 27 calculator rolls, each 56mm wide and 30 metres long, in 28 sec, says Edlon.

Senn KPW automatic slitter/rewinder, fitted with an RPM automatic wrapping device



(Edlon House, Ashburton Grove, London N7 7AA - tel: 0171 609 2266, fax: 0171 700 4833).

A regenerative drive on the

Auto rewinders lift output by 700%

Automatic rewinders for short lengths of hot-stamping foil, polypropylene and metallised foils, as used in the printing industry, have been announced by Automated Web Winding, adding to the company's range of equipment for cling film.

There are two Sprint mod-

els, both capable of producing two 120 metre long rolls a minute. The version for polypropylene operates with parent reels up to 800mm wide while the hot-stamping foil winder accepts reels up to 635mm wide, or 1000mm wide in semi-automatic form.

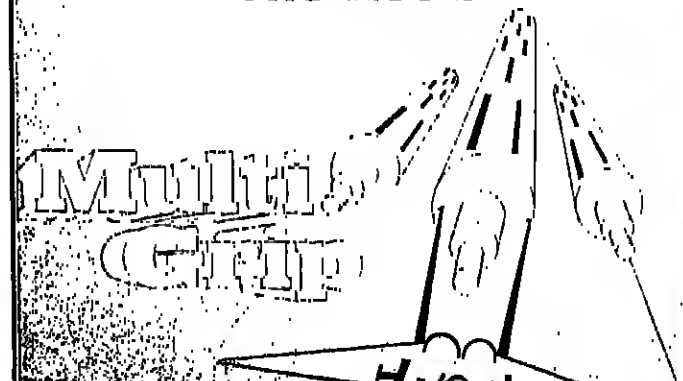
Both machines are seen as labour saving replacements for semi-automatic equipment and, in one case have been able to raise output by seven to nine times, says AWW (The Hemmells, Laindon, North Industrial Estate, Basildon, Essex SS15 6TA - tel: 0268 416331, fax: 0268 540043).

Standard features include variable speed drive and automatic tension control to provide optimum rewind characteristics independent of the parent stock.

Also available from AWW is a pulper stretchwrap rewinder aimed at the smaller producer.

For further information, call 0268 416331 or 0268 540043.

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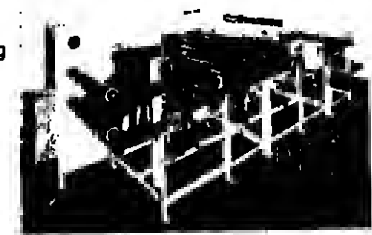
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A dedication to this vision has secured UK market leadership, they now seek the same recognition
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Few companies achieve leadership in their chosen sector and fewer still
maintain that leadership over time, the Field Group intends to remain among
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candidate will be expected to establish strategies for growth of business with the major food
and household product manufacturers, and with the retail sector.

A key feature of the role will be to act as a catalyst for product development, ensuring that
maximum benefit is gained from the substantial technical resources available. Once strategies
are established, the Business Development Director will, in conjunction with factory sales teams,
take a lead in their implementation.

The ideal applicant will be a sales & marketing professional aged 35 to 45 years, a science or
business graduate with strong technical and commercial acumen encompassing a broad
knowledge of the international food and household products sector. Specific experience of
paper based packaging or raw materials would prove advantageous, however, candidates with
transferable market knowledge will be positively considered.

Remuneration and benefits will reflect the importance of this exciting post and include company
car, executive share options and relocation assistance.

Please telephone in the strictest confidence, or write enclosing a detailed curriculum vitae
quoting reference AG/F07 to:

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CHRISTMAS WHISKY

Continued from front page

The carton was designed by Furry Pickering on its digital artwork facility. "We challenged Furry Pickering to produce a visually attractive carton, with a prestigious appearance and instant shelf appeal," says Julian Haswell, director of Old St Andrews. "I am delighted with the finished job, which has an aura of quality and a strong brand identity, incorporating the imagery of our unique gold bell shaped bottle."

The pack is said to be proving very popular and sales for the pre-Christmas period have been buoyant with strong demand reported from all outlets.

For further information K12 Call for details 0839 772288

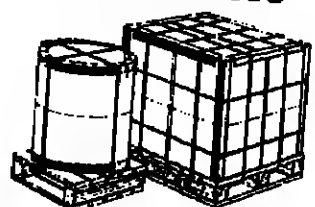
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NEWS

Bellows gives secure
lock on plastics pump

The first all-plastics dispenser pump has been produced by Italian manufacturer Taplast, with a 90deg turn bellows replacing a spring and allowing secure locking.

Using a combination of pp and pc, the conical dispenser will give consistent measured doses of 2.5ml. Tests have shown that the locking mechanism will support up to 40kg, maintaining its seal in transit and storage. Whether in the open or closed position, it will not leak even when, for exam-

ple, turned on end.

According to Taplast, the differential in area between the top and base of the pump means that pressure required remains constant throughout the act of dispensing at around 20 per cent less than on comparable pumps.

Colour can be customised on the dispenser, says Taplast (Ditchling Business Centre, 1 West Street, Ditchling, Sussex BN6 8YS - tel: 0273 846707, fax: 846582), which can supply for SP-28/410 and 28/400 necks.

The conical dispenser uses a combination of pp and pc



For further information K12 Call for details 0839 772288

In the not so bleak
Mead winter...

An advent calendar version of the Duodozen multipack, produced for Coca Cola France, won a Packaging Oscar at the Paris Salon de l'Emballage.

The bottom face of the pack from Mead Emballage, France, carries a Christmas scene, complete with fully-branded sleigh, which will function as an advent calendar.

Crucially, no fundamental change to the conversion process was necessary to provide this option, says Mead (500 Woodward Avenue, Yate, Bristol BS17 5YS - tel: 0454 320000, fax: 320055).

For more news of the Paris Salon, see pages 6-7.

For further information K12 Call for details 0839 772288



Mead's advent calendar version of the Duodozen multipack

DUAL HEAD IMAGER

Continued from front page

as product is transported.

Legible and clear print quality is provided by the SurePrint software incorporated. By monitoring and controlling ink viscosity and each individual dot, the software ensures a high print resolution for a consistent, quality print.

The company believes that this is not a 'me too' product, but a fundamental change that

offers much more than the original 270i machine. For instance, the latest built in barcode capabilities, which conform to international requirements, provide EAN-8, EAN-13, EAN-128, UPC-A, 12 of 5 and Code 39 options.

For legibility, the codes can be printed almost one inch high with human readable characters underneath.

A redesigned keyboard is said to ensure that even with all of its extended capabilities, the

printer remains easy to operate. For instance, the code is displayed before printing, so input corrections can be made without wasting time or product.

Incorporated in the 273se is an auto flush option, a process which completely flushes and cleans the print-head at shutdown. This fully recirculating ink system requires no additional fluid to perform the cycle.

Depending on matrix and number of lines of print, the

273se can run at line speed to 278 metres a minute with print rate of up to 1832 characters a second. Optimal character heights are 3.2mm to 6.4mm. The machine operates in most product environments with an operating temperature range between 5 and 43deg C with a relative humidity of 10-90 per cent without condensation.

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PACKAGING NEWS/DECEMBER 1993